

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 214

BY REPRESENTATIVES NEWELL AND DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Sidney H. Cates, III, for his career of service.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Sidney H. Cates, III, for his dedicated service to the city of New Orleans and to his country and to commend him on his career with the New Orleans Police Department and military service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates is a United States Army veteran who honorably served his country with courage, dignity, and pride during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates joined the New Orleans Police Department in February 1955; during his career with the department, he held positions in the Bureau of Service, the Motor Maintenance Bureau, and the Juvenile Bureau; he also served as supervisor of the Vice Squad and supervising commander of the Third and Fifth Districts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates played an instrumental role in the formation of the New Orleans Police Department's Community Relations Division; the division would go on to receive national recognition as a result of his leadership while he served as commander; while working with the department, he impressively earned a bachelor of arts degree in criminology from Loyola University; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his incredible work and dedication, Mr. Cates was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in December 1964; in April 1968, he became the first black man to achieve the rank of captain with the New Orleans Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates received a number of awards and honors during his law enforcement career, especially during his tenure as commander of the Community Relations Division; he was presented with Honorable Mention citations from the Louisiana Civil Service League during the Charles E. Dunbar, Jr., Career Services Awards Ceremony, and he was nominated by Superintendent Clarence Giarusso for his dedicated performance and his "intelligence, integrity, determination, and perseverance"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates also received the Alfred E. Clay Award from the Children's Bureau of New Orleans; the award was presented to him for his outstanding contributions to the welfare of children in the community by the design, implementation, and supervision of the programs sponsored by the Community Relations Division of the New Orleans Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates was promoted to the role of deputy chief of administration, the third highest position in the New Orleans Police Department, on August 25, 1970; on February 1, 1972, he retired from the department to serve in city government as an assistant chief administrative officer in charge of federal programs; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his illustrious career in law enforcement, Mr. Cates was bestowed the highest honor given to a layperson by the Catholic Church; upon the recommendation of Archbishop Philip Hannan, he was invested as an Equestrian Knight into the Southern Lieutenancy of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, the organization entrusted with the care of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem; the Equestrian Knights are the only lay order recognized by the Holy See in Rome; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sidney H. Cates, III, has demonstrated exceptional courage, dedication, and leadership throughout his storied career; his positive influence has impacted not only the New Orleans Police Department, but also the entire community of New Orleans; he is most deserving of highest recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sidney H. Cates, III, for his career of service; does hereby further recognize him for his unending commitment to his community; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that he continue to enjoy many years of good health and engagement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sidney H. Cates, III.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES