

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 223

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURRELL

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Mildred Ida Byrd Pugh of Shreveport.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Louisiana House of Representatives has learned of the death of Mildred Ida Byrd Pugh on Saturday, May 25, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Mildred Ida Byrd was born on July 2, 1931, to R.E. Byrd, Sr., and Ida Stephens Byrd; and

WHEREAS, Mildred accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior at a young age and attended Oak Hill School, and she was a member of the last graduating class of Central Colored High School in Shreveport, where she was the 1949 class president; and

WHEREAS, Mildred earned her undergraduate degree from Grambling State University in 1954, and she obtained her master's in education from Prairie View A&M College of Texas in 1962; and

WHEREAS, in August 1952, Mildred was joined in holy matrimony to Willie James Pugh, and she taught in the schools of Caddo parish for twenty-five years, eventually serving as assistant principal of Woodlawn High School; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pugh served for over sixteen years on the Caddo Parish School Board, including two terms as president of the board, and founded the Queensborough Neighborhood Association; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pugh was a member of the National Council of Negro Women, the National Centralites, the Retired Teachers Association, the Caddo Parish Education Association, and the National Centralites Scholarship Committee dedicated to the class of 1943; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pugh received many awards and accolades throughout her life and she also managed many political and civic campaigns, including the election campaign of the late State Representative Danny R. Mitchell; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pugh was preceded in death by her parents, R.E. Byrd, Sr., and Ida Stephens Byrd; her husband, Willie James Pugh; and two brothers, Clinton C. Byrd and Joseph Lee Byrd; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pugh leaves to cherish her precious memory her children, Frederick Cook, Gerald Cook, and Charles Stephens and wife Melva; one granddaughter, Nadia; two brothers, R.E. Byrd, Jr., and wife Margaret and Rudolph Moses Byrd and wife Margaret; one sister-in-law, Thelma Byrd; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, colleagues, and many friends; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Pugh was a woman of true benevolence and grace and will be remembered for her kindness, love for her community, and her generous spirit; and

WHEREAS, the death of Mrs. Pugh has left an abiding void in the many lives she touched throughout her life, and her memory shall remain eternal in the hearts and minds of all those who knew and loved her.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere sorrow and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Mildred Ida Byrd Pugh, does hereby recognize her extraordinary faith and many years of service to the Caddo Parish School Board, school system and the state of Louisiana, does hereby record for posterity her tremendous gifts as an educator, administrator, and public official, and does hereby express the deep regret of the entire state upon the loss of this remarkable woman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Mildred Ida Byrd Pugh.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES