

Regular Session, 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 91

BY SENATOR MCPHERSON

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Dr. Arnold Task on his retirement as Rabbi of the Gemiluth Chassodim Jewish Temple.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To commend Dr. Arnold Task on his retirement as Rabbi of the Gemiluth Chassodim Jewish
3 Temple.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Task is native of Chicago, Illinois, and a 1952 graduate of the
5 University of Chicago; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1955, he married Judy Wiener, and they have three children, five
7 grandchildren, and three step-grandchildren; and

8 WHEREAS, he was ordained in 1958 at the Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute
9 of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he received a Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters, and
10 in 1983, he earned a Doctor of Divinity degree; and

11 WHEREAS, before moving to Alexandria, Louisiana, Dr. Task served congregations
12 in St. Louis, Missouri; Newport News, Virginia; and Greensboro, North Carolina; and

13 WHEREAS, in Newport News, Virginia, beyond his Rabbinical responsibilities,
14 Rabbi Task was president of the Peninsula Family Services and Traveler's Aid, on the board
15 of the American Red Cross, Peninsula Council on Aging, Peninsula Association of Retarded
16 Children, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and

17 WHEREAS, from 1964 to 1965, Rabbi Task served as director of the Mid-Atlantic
18 Federation of Temple Youth, and dean of the National Federation of Temple Youth

1 Leadership Institute for two years; and

2 WHEREAS, in Greensboro, North Carolina, he served as president of the Family
3 Service and Traveler Aid, co-chair of the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust,
4 chairman of the Guilford County Commission on the Needs of Children, and chairman of
5 the City of Greensboro Human Relations Commission; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Task was president of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Central
7 Conference of American Rabbis, and served two terms on the National Executive Board of
8 the Central Conference of American Rabbis; and

9 WHEREAS, in addition to his congregational duties in Alexandria, Louisiana, he
10 served as president of the Central Louisiana Ministers Association, the Family Counseling
11 Agency, Angel Care, and is the current president of the Louisiana Maneuvers and Military
12 Museum at Camp Beauregard; and

13 WHEREAS, he is past chairman of the Louisiana State University at Alexandria Lay
14 Advisory Committee and, for three years, he was vice president for Military Affairs of the
15 Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Task has served on the Board of Directors of the United Way,
17 Renaissance Home, and is past president of the Central Louisiana Community Foundation;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, he chaired the Alexandria Human Relations Task Force and was
20 founder and first chairman of the Human Relations Commission; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Task is a member of the Veterans Affairs Health Ethics
22 Commission, co-chair of the Cenla Health Care Ethics Coalition, chairman of the State of
23 Louisiana Region VI Mental Health Advisory Council, and a member of the Alexandria
24 Rotary Club; and

25 WHEREAS, he has lectured at colleges in Louisiana, Missouri, Illinois, Virginia,
26 North Carolina, and South Carolina, and served as an adjunct professor at Greensboro
27 College and Louisiana State University at Alexandria for thirty-six years, teaching Judaism
28 and the Holocaust; and

29 WHEREAS, since 1989, Dr. Task has been the spiritual leader of the Gemiluth
30 Chassodim Jewish Temple in Alexandria, Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Task has received numerous awards and honors including, but not
2 limited to, the Newport News Distinguished Merit Citation, the Greensboro Chamber of
3 Commerce Human Rights Award, the Greensboro Kiwanis Club Distinguished Service
4 Award, the Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award, the Alexandria Veteran's Affair
5 Medical Center Trailblazer Award, and the State of Louisiana Legacy of Achievement
6 Award; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Task announced his retirement in January, 2011, indicating that
8 June 24, 2011 will be his last day as the leader of the Gemiluth Chassodim Jewish Temple
9 congregation; and

10 WHEREAS, Alexandria City Councilman, Harry Silver, instrumental in recruiting
11 Dr. Task, says that *Rabbi Task is well accepted and respected in every aspect of family and*
12 *religious life.*

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
14 commend Dr. Arnold Task on his retirement as Rabbi of the Gemiluth Chassodim Jewish
15 Temple.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr.
17 Arnold Task.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Broussard-Johnson.

DIGEST

McPherson

SCR No.

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