

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 92

BY SENATOR MURRAY

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Noble Donald R. Parks on his election as the Thirty-ninth Imperial Potentate of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc.

WHEREAS, the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc. was founded as an Imperial Council of the Prince Hall Shriners on June 3, 1893, in Chicago, Illinois, by thirteen Prince Hall Masons under the leadership of John George Jones; and

WHEREAS, it is a fraternal, social, and charitable organization dedicated to fostering civic, economic, and educational development programs throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Donald R. Parks was elected as the Thirty-ninth Imperial Potentate of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc. at its national convention in August, 2010; and

WHEREAS, he was born on January 12, 1942, to Arvel and Alrena Joseph Parks in Arcadia, Oklahoma, where he attended elementary school; and

WHEREAS, he graduated in 1960 from Douglass Senior High School in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and upon graduation enlisted in the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parks retired on August 1, 1985, with twenty-five years of military service and from 1985 to 1987, he was employed by Tracor Applied Sciences, Inc., where he held various positions including Technical Support Manager and Manager of the Montgomery, Alabama office; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, he entered federal civil service, serving in various positions that included chief of the Requirements and Analysis Division Combat Ammunitions Systems, chief of the Manpower Systems Division, and program manager for the Air Force Aviation Resource Management System; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Mr. Parks was awarded the Air Force Exemplary Civilian Service award and in May, 2006, was selected to manage the Operations and Sustainment Branch where he served until his retirement on October 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of several professional and civic organizations, including the Air Force Sergeants Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans; and

WHEREAS, he is also a member of the Armed Forces Communication Electronics Association, the American Military Society, the Montgomery Lions Club, the Central Montgomery Optimist Club, and is a life member of the Phylaxis Society; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parks is a Past Master of R.H. Rice Lodge No. 345, Past Worthy Patron of Ruth Chapter No. 881, Order of the Eastern Star, a member of Alpha Chapter No. 26, Royal Arch Masons, E. J. Fluker Commandery No. 16, Knights Templar, Past Commander in Chief of Prince Hall Consistory No. 19; and

WHEREAS, he was elevated to the Thirty-third Degree in 1981, is Past Potentate of Shaaban Temple No. 103, and is currently the Grand Senior Deacon for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parks is married to the former Symiria J. Garrett of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and they have a son, Leonardo, and a daughter, Tracy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Parks merits a special measure of commendation for the admirable way in which he has dedicated his intelligence and unique talents to the philanthropic ideals and principles of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Noble Donald R. Parks on his election as the Thirty-ninth Imperial Potentate of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and its Jurisdictions, Inc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Noble Donald R. Parks.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE