HLS 18RS-2071 ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY REPRESENTATIVES GAINES, BAGNERIS, BOUIE, BRASS, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, COX, FRANKLIN, GLOVER, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, HUNTER, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, JORDAN, TERRY LANDRY, LYONS, MARCELLE, DUSTIN MILLER, NORTON, PIERRE, AND SMITH AND SENATORS BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, COLOMB, MORRELL, PETERSON, PRICE, AND TARVER

COMMENDATIONS: Recognizes the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To recognize the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
3	WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., fought to end segregation in the United
4	States and was a leader of one of the first mass desegregation acts in the South, the 1955
5	Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott; and
6	WHEREAS, one hundred years after the Emancipation Proclamation, Dr. King
7	organized a march of hundreds of thousands of blacks and whites, Jews and gentiles, and
8	Protestants and Catholics, on August 28, 1963, to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington,
9	D.C.; it was here that the signal to end government-sponsored segregation was given in
0	Dr. King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech; and
1	WHEREAS, in 1964, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize
12	for his work in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; he successfully advocated by
13	means of a nonviolent march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, for passage of the
4	Voting Rights Act of 1965, which struck down legal barriers at state and local levels that
15	prevented the nation's black population from exercising the right to vote as guaranteed under
16	the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and
17	WHEREAS, the actions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., were a testament to his
8	conviction that "there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor
9	politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right"; and

WHEREAS, Memphis, Tennessee, was the unfortunate site of a deeply national 1 2 tragedy, the assassination of Dr. King on April 4, 1968, one day after his "I've Been to the 3 Mountaintop" speech at Mason Temple Church that moved the hearts and souls of all who 4 heard it; Dr. King was in Memphis to support a nonviolent strike by sanitation workers 5 following the deaths of two black employees, Echol Cole and Robert Walker, in a 6 malfunctioning city garbage truck; and WHEREAS, MLK50: Memphis Remembers, a celebration of the life of Dr. Martin 7 8 Luther King, Jr., was organized by citizens in the community of Memphis and will take 9 place on Tuesday, April 4, 2018, the fifty-year anniversary of his death; and 10 WHEREAS, Louisiana joins Memphis and the nation in honoring the legacy of 11 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the citizens of the state pledge to make progress toward 12 civility and unity consistent with the values and life work of Dr. King to achieve his dream 13 of freedom and equality for all. 14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 15 commend the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., upon the fiftieth anniversary of 16 his death and does hereby commemorate the city of Memphis for its celebration of MLK50: 17 Memphis Remembers.

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 29 Original

2018 Regular Session

Gaines

Recognizes the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther, King, Jr.