

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 171

BY REPRESENTATIVES JENKINS AND NORTON

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Deacon  
Cleophus Banks, Jr., of Shreveport.

WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives were saddened to learn  
of the passing on May 11, 2016, of Cleophus Banks, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Cleophus Banks was born November 13, 1944, in Shreveport, the fourth  
of seven children of Cleophus Banks, Sr., and Roberta Hill Banks; his parents and his older  
brother Freddie "The Thrill" Hill preceded him to eternal rest; and

WHEREAS, at an early age, Cleophus Banks accepted Christ as Lord of his life and  
was baptized into the St. Peter Baptist Church fellowship in the Celia Sykes pond near  
Shreve City; and

WHEREAS, Cleophus Banks, Jr., was ordained as a deacon and served as chairman  
of the Trustee Board; Deacon Banks attended prayer meetings, Sunday school, and was a  
member of the Brotherhood and the Male Chorus; he was faithful to his ministries and to  
St. Peter Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, during his teen years, Cleophus Banks, Jr., was an outstanding athlete  
at Booker T. Washington High School where he razzled and dazzled basketball fans with his  
on-court moves and shots; he also was a top-notch baseball player, and his dual-sport skills  
earned him scholarships in both basketball and baseball to Southern University in Baton  
Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Cleophus Banks, Jr., was the voice that called the Friday night football  
games of the Booker T. Washington Lions; and

WHEREAS, Cleophus Banks, Jr., played on a Southern University basketball team that made it to the Elite Eight of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Tournament; he was inducted into the Southern University Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Cleophus Banks, Jr., was joined in holy matrimony with Linda Faye Sanders Brewer in 1968, and to this union, Roman Patrick Banks and Capathia Marshunne Banks were born; Roman Banks is the coach of the men's basketball team at Southern University; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his life, Deacon Cleophus Banks, Jr., showed himself to be a dedicated and hard worker; he was employed by Caddo Parish schools, was assistant librarian at Southern University at Shreveport, worked for Travelers Insurance, and was the first citywide director of Police-Community Relations, later renamed Neighborhood Assistance Team; his task was to bridge the gap between the police and citizens of the community; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Banks sponsored community events to assist the less fortunate and senior citizens, and he was a mentor, advocate, and role model to young people; he served on the executive board of the Caddo Community Action Agency, and he founded the Midnight Basketball League and the Martin Luther King Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Banks lived a courageous, God-fearing life, and he humbly exercised his faith as he made his Christian journey on Earth; he leaves to cherish his memories his beloved wife, Linda; his sons, Roman Banks and his wife, Tiffany, Charlton Daryl Sample, and Carlos Sample and his wife, Tenisha; his daughters, Capathia Banks Givens and Bridget Stewart; his grandchildren, Trelun', Kennedi, Colyn, Ckelby, Cade, Cameron, Kaitly, Chasity, Chase, and Chelsea; his brother, Donald Banks and his wife, Delores; his sisters, Johnnie Thomas, Dorothy Lynch, Rosie Mays, Bobbie Lattier and her husband, Albert, Etta Royster, and Debra Banks; and his godchildren, Jerald Wills, Cameron Monroe, Carlos and C.J. Hooker, and Savannah Smith; and

WHEREAS, while the pain of his passing leaves a void that can never be filled, fond recollections of good times shared with Deacon Cleophus Banks, Jr., will live forever in the hearts and minds of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend sincerest condolences to the family and friends

of Deacon Cleophus Banks, Jr., and does hereby offer best hopes and prayers for peace and comfort in this time of mourning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Deacon Cleophus Banks, Jr.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES