

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY REPRESENTATIVE GIROD JACKSON

A RESOLUTION

To commend Reverend Doctor John Austin Brooks, Sr., upon the celebration of his seventy-fifth birthday.

WHEREAS, on Friday, April 20, 2012, friends and family are gathering to celebrate the seventy-fifth birthday of Reverend Doctor John Austin Brooks, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks merits a sincere measure of commendation for his faithful and committed service to Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church in Harvey and the people of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks was born to Reverend Clarence Ellis Brooks, Sr., and Mrs. Bertha Lane Brooks on April 12, 1937, and baptized at Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church on May 13, 1945; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks graduated from McDonogh #35 High School, earned an undergraduate degree from Dillard University of New Orleans in 1959, and received a master of education degree from Nicholls State University in 1973, and master of divinity and theology degrees from Union Baptist Theological Seminary in 1978 and 1981, respectively, before being awarded an honorary doctorate of divinity degree in 1989; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 1959, Reverend Brooks married his devoted wife, Kathleen Lemon Brooks, with whom he has two children, Donita and John Brooks, Jr., six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks was ordained on June 11, 1976, under the direction of the Westside Missionary Baptist Association; and

WHEREAS, after the death of his father, Reverend Clarence E. Brooks, Sr., Reverend Brooks was elected pastor of Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church and was installed on August 13, 1976; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks has been a source of great inspiration for the people of Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church; among his accomplishments are leading the drives to build a new edifice in 1985 and the Mount Pilgrim Multipurpose Christian Center in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks has served on numerous Christian boards and committees and in various offices throughout the state and nation, including being a founding member of the Gamma Rho Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, past president of the Westside Missionary Baptist Association, and a member of the Louisiana Baptist State Convention and the National Baptist Association; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brooks has served faithfully and with distinction and has provided steady, visionary leadership for his church and community and has been a mentor, teacher, preacher, confidant, counselor, and brother to many.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Reverend Doctor John Austin Brooks, Sr., upon his seventy-fifth birthday, does hereby recognize the spiritual leadership, inspiration, and guidance that he provides to his church and community, and does hereby wish him and his family full measures of success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Reverend Doctor John Austin Brooks, Sr., of the Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church in Harvey.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES