

2022 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 115

BY SENATOR PRICE

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences of the Senate upon the death of Reverend Lionel Johnson Sr.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the  
3 death of Reverend Lionel Johnson Sr.

4 WHEREAS, Reverend Lionel Johnson Sr. was a native and lifelong resident of  
5 Iberville, Louisiana; and

6 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson received a bachelor's degree in English from  
7 Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College in Baton Rouge; he received  
8 a master's degree in curriculum development from the State University of New York at  
9 Albany; and he was an alumnus of the Law Enforcement Basic Training Academy at  
10 Louisiana State University; and

11 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson taught English for eight years in East Feliciana  
12 Parish; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1974, Reverend Johnson was appointed by then-Governor Edwin  
14 Edwards to the Board of Supervisors of the newly formed Southern University System,  
15 which at the time included Southern University at Baton Rouge, Southern University at New  
16 Orleans, and Southern University at Shreveport; and

17 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson served ten years as the chairman of the Southern  
18 University System Board of Supervisors and he played a key role in the formation of the

1 Southern University System into the first system of Historically Black Colleges and  
2 Universities in the nation; and

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was appointed by Governor Edwin Edwards to serve  
4 as a member of the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

5 WHEREAS, former Governors Edwin Edwards and Dave Treen both appointed  
6 Reverend Johnson to serve as a member on the Governor's Special Commission on  
7 Educational Services, now the Office of Student Financial Assistance, and Reverend Johnson  
8 served as both a member and as the chair; and

9 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson served twenty-eight years as the chief administrative  
10 deputy of the Iberville Parish Sheriff's Office; and

11 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson founded and served as president of the Iberville  
12 Coalition of Black Peace Officers; and

13 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson served his community in numerous capacities  
14 including serving as a member and vice-chair of the Iberville Parish Charter Commission,  
15 which developed the Iberville Parish president-council home rule charter form of  
16 government in 1996; and

17 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was appointed by the Iberville Parish School Board  
18 as a member and as the chair of the Zero Tolerance Commission; and

19 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was a founding member and president of the East  
20 Iberville Community Complex Incorporated and was instrumental in procuring the defunct  
21 Sunshine High School and nearly twenty acres of land to provide community services, and  
22 the area is now the site of the St. Gabriel City Hall; and

23 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was an inaugural alderman for the Town of St.  
24 Gabriel; he was initially appointed by Governor Edwin Edwards and he was subsequently  
25 elected by the citizens of St. Gabriel and served as an alderman of the town of St. Gabriel  
26 for five years; and

27 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was a member and the first black president of the  
28 Capital Economic Development District Council, which includes the parishes of Ascension,  
29 East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena, St.  
30 Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana; and

1           WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson served as a pastor for more than thirty-six years at  
2 three churches: the First Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Sunshine, Louisiana; the St.  
3 Joseph Baptist Church in St. Gabriel, Louisiana; and the Greater Ebenezer Baptist Church  
4 in Plaquemine, Louisiana; and

5           WHEREAS, Reverend Johnson was truly a man with a servant's heart and he  
6 exemplified it in his more than forty years of distinguished service to his community and to  
7 the state of Louisiana.

8           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
9 does hereby express its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of  
10 Reverend Lionel Johnson Sr. on the occasion of his passing.

11           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
12 Reverend Johnson's wife, Evelyn Johnson.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Kathy Liberty.

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	DIGEST	
SR 115 Original	2022 Regular Session	Price
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