

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 92

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Leotha "Leo" Bolden

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Leotha "Leo"
3 Bolden.

4 WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of
5 Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on March 25,
6 2026, of Leotha "Leo" Bolden; and

7 WHEREAS, Leotha Bolden was born on August 11, 1950, in Indianola, Mississippi,
8 to Gerdie White and Thomas Jefferson Bolden; he was the twin of his brother, Leon, and the
9 ninth of twelve children; and

10 WHEREAS, Leo accepted Christ at an early age at Big Morning Star Church, and
11 his faith was a foundational aspect of his life; he was a devoted and faithful member of
12 Progressive Baptist Church, where he served with humility, dedication, and love for forty-
13 five years; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Bolden was ordained a deacon under the leadership of Pastor Lloyd
15 Joiner, Jr., and faithfully carried out this calling for more than thirty years; in January 2026,
16 Pastor Chad E. Nora honored him with the distinguished title of deacon emeritus; he served
17 as chairman of the church's deacon board and extended his service to the trustee board,
18 Brotherhood Ministry, Sunday school, L.I.N.K.I.E.S. Ministry, counting team, and Prison
19 Ministry; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Bolden graduated from Gentry High School and earned a bachelor
21 of science degree in political science from Mississippi Valley State University; he began his

1 professional career at Modern Tool and Die in Indianola and later worked for a finance
2 company; after moving to Lafayette, Louisiana, he worked for the Ford Motor Credit
3 Company; he then dedicated more than twenty years of service to Allstate Insurance
4 Company, where he thrived as a top-selling agent, received multiple awards, and earned
5 numerous trips in recognition of his remarkable success and commitment to excellence; and

6 WHEREAS, Leo married Azell Wells, whom he met while at Mississippi Valley
7 State, on February 22, 1975; they shared a union rooted in deep love, enduring commitment,
8 and abundant blessings and were blessed with three children: Tonya Lee, Tiffany Nicole,
9 and Sedera Joy; and

10 WHEREAS, Leo treasured his family above all, and in his later years, his most
11 precious moments were those spent in the company of his children, grandchildren, and great-
12 grandchild; he extended his love beyond his immediately family and was known as
13 everyone's favorite uncle, a "bonus" dad, and grandfather to many; and

14 WHEREAS, Leo was passionate about music and was a proud member of the
15 Mississippi Valley State Choir, which gave him a scholarship; he was a member of KJCB
16 Gospel Harmonizers, PBC Laymen Choir, PBC Sanctuary Choir, and PBC Men of Purpose;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Bolden was deeply devoted to his community; he was a
19 philanthropist, faithful supporter of Northside High School Athletics, and board member of
20 the Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc., of Lafayette; he also served as a mentor who
21 generously poured wisdom, encouragement, and compassion into the lives of others; and

22 WHEREAS, Leo leaves to cherish his precious memory his devoted wife of fifty-one
23 years, Azell Bolden; daughters, Tonya Bolden-Ball (Kirk) and Sedera Joubert (Travis);
24 grandchildren, Trevor, Kennedi, Sunni Joy, and Maya; great-grandchild, Taelyn; siblings,
25 Vashti, Ella Ruth, Howard, Larry, and Joyce; brothers-in-law, Lionel Edlam (Fatiha) and
26 Wilbert Edlam; sister-in-law, Lesia Edlam; goddaughter, Chloe Williams (Kievan); and a
27 host of nieces, nephews, church family, extended relatives, and dear friends; and

28 WHEREAS, Leotha "Leo" Bolden was admired and cherished for his gentle spirit,
29 warm heart, and steadfast character; while he will be deeply missed, the legacy of his loving

1 and welcoming spirit shall live on in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to
2 have known and loved him.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Leotha
5 "Leo" Bolden and does hereby extend sincere wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones
6 find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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)]

HR 92 Original

2026 Regular Session

Chassion

Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Leotha "Leo" Bolden.