

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 124

BY REPRESENTATIVES GARY CARTER, ABRAMSON, BAGNERIS, BOUIE,
DUPLESSIS, JIMMY HARRIS, HILFERTY, JAMES, LEGER, AND STOKES

A RESOLUTION

To commend Bivian "Sonny" Lee, III, of Son of a Saint for his many contributions and tireless service to his community and the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Bivian "Sonny" Lee, III, a graduate of the University of New Orleans and son of Bivian Lee, Jr., a former defensive back for the New Orleans Saints, established Son of a Saint in 2011 in honor of his late father and single mother; Son of a Saint is a New Orleans-based nonprofit organization that provides mentoring and support services to boys whose fathers have died or been incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, the organization has been chipping away at the epidemic of fatherlessness in New Orleans, saving the lives of a growing family of fatherless boys and improving the quality of life for everyone in New Orleans for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Sonny lost his own father after he suffered a heart attack at the age of thirty-six; his mother was left to raise Sonny and his older sister, Tamica; in founding Son of a Saint, Sonny aimed to "pay it forward" to fatherless young males in the community; and

WHEREAS, the organization utilizes a network of volunteers and community partners to ensure that fatherless boys have the opportunity to receive meaningful guidance and encouragement; every year boys ages ten to thirteen enter the program and remain involved until receiving their high school diplomas; and

WHEREAS, participants must maintain a minimum 2.7 GPA, complete eight hours of community service every month, and maintain good behavior at home and school and within the organization; and

WHEREAS, Son of a Saint was named as one of three organizations statewide selected by the Louisiana Department of Education to help facilitate the state's Tuition Donation Credit Program, a tax-credit scholarship program launched in 2012 designed to encourage donors to contribute to scholarship organizations that help students from low-income households access private learning options best suited to their needs; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, Son of a Saint reached the significant milestone of serving one hundred fatherless boys; Sonny has made tremendous contributions to New Orleans and made the community a better place for young people.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Bivian "Sonny" Lee, III, of Son of a Saint for his many contributions and tireless service to his community and the state of Louisiana; does hereby recognize and record for posterity the paramount progress Son of a Saint has made in the lives of so many boys; and does hereby commend Mr. Lee for the honor and prestige that he has brought to the state of Louisiana as a result of his work and service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bivian "Sonny" Lee, III.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES