

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Helen Louise Turner Rutledge for her civic and social contributions to her East Baton Rouge Parish community

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Helen Louise Turner Rutledge for her many contributions to East Baton Rouge  
3 Parish.

4 WHEREAS, Helen Louise Turner Rutledge is a Baton Rouge native, the oldest of  
5 three children born to the Reverend Eddie Turner and Nettie Sparks Turner; while a student  
6 at Southern University Laboratory School, Helen augmented her academics with choir,  
7 basketball, and dance, and during her matriculation at Southern University and A & M  
8 College, she studied early childhood development; and

9 WHEREAS, for more than twenty years, Helen coordinated workshops and  
10 conventions for Community Advancement, Inc., and provided social services coordination  
11 at Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church, Margaret Dumas Health Center, Ryan  
12 Head Start, Monte Sano Head Start, and Greater New Guide Baptist Church; and

13 WHEREAS, after serving on the human resources staff at East Baton Rouge Parish  
14 Head Start, Helen returned to employment at Southern University, first in the office of the  
15 Registrar, then as coordinator of International Students and Government Affairs; Helen was  
16 selected as chairperson of Southern's homecoming and served in this capacity for many  
17 years, and using skills taught in childhood and talents trained by her mother, she brought  
18 new perspectives and insights to homecomings that increased appreciation of and  
19 participation in the event by students, faculty and staff, and community businesses; and

20 WHEREAS, Helen Rutledge was employed by the East Baton Rouge city-parish  
21 government to coordinate summer jobs for teens from single-parent homes and low-income

1 families; she was promoted to assistant director of Leo Butler Community Center where she  
2 coordinated programs for children and seniors in the neighborhood, and among the visions  
3 she brought to fruition are the South Baton Rouge Hall of Fame and the South Baton Rouge  
4 Wellness Walk and Talk; the second South Baton Rouge Wellness Walk and Talk will take  
5 place Saturday, May 18, 2019; and

6 WHEREAS, Helen was the founder and director of an East Baton Rouge Parish  
7 gospel choir of more than one hundred twenty members; this choir was nationally  
8 recognized by world-renown gospel music legend, James Cleveland, and WXOK-AM radio  
9 icon, Eula Mae Hatter; she has also directed church choirs and coordinated weddings and  
10 social events; and

11 WHEREAS, with the support of her husband Robert and their daughters, Tiffany,  
12 Endia, and Saminthia, and son Casey, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and godchildren,  
13 Helen Rutledge lives her life by the Word of God and carries herself with the grace and style  
14 imbued to her from childhood; upon the occasion of her retirement, it is fitting to herald this  
15 grand lady and to commend her steadfast presence and contributions to her South Baton  
16 Rouge community.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
18 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Helen Louise Turner  
19 Rutledge upon the occasion of her retirement; does hereby record for posterity the many  
20 deeds which bear her inimitable stamp and the landmark events she founded that have  
21 become fixtures of the community; and does hereby express best wishes for health,  
22 happiness, and continued fruitfulness in this next phase of her life.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Helen  
24 Rutledge.

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#### 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)]

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HR 167 Original

2019 Regular Session

Smith

Commends Helen L. Turner Rutledge on her retirement.