

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Elder John W. Burris, Sr., on the occasion of his retirement

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Elder John W. Burris, Sr., on the occasion of his retirement.

3 WHEREAS, Elder Burris was raised by his grandmother, Mamie Burris, in Folsom,  
4 Louisiana; as a child, he regularly attended church services and Sunday school where he  
5 developed strong Christian values; and

6 WHEREAS, later in life, Elder Burris joined Independence United Methodist Church  
7 in Hammond; he then returned home to Folsom and joined Midway Church of Christ  
8 Holiness USA to study under Elder Samuel Murray; in 1972, he began his own ministry, and  
9 after Elder Murray's passing, Bishop J.L. Burris appointed him pastor of Midway Church  
10 of Christ Holiness; under his leadership, the young adult choir was formed and a trustee  
11 board, building fund, and other ministries were established; and

12 WHEREAS, after serving Midway for nine years, Elder Burris joined Oak Grove  
13 Memorial Church of Christ Holiness USA in Tickfaw, Louisiana, under the leadership of  
14 Elder Willie Earl Dyson; after Elder Dyson's passing, Elder Burris was appointed pastor; in  
15 1996, Oak Grove relocated from Tickfaw to downtown Hammond; Bishop Vernon  
16 Kennebrew then appointed Elder Burris as chairman of District #5; during his eight year  
17 tenure as district chairman, he served the community by teaching religious classes and  
18 counseling community members; and

19 WHEREAS, Elder Burris has been happily married to Lillie M. Brumfield for sixty-  
20 one years; together they have three children, Scherry Ferrill, Wanda Stuart, and John Burris,  
21 Jr.; seven grandchildren, Bradley, Sommer, Maya, Allen, John III, Journey, and Daren;

1 three great-grandchildren, Autumn, Bradley, Jr., and Braylon; two sons-in-law, Glen and  
2 William; a daughter-in-law, Debbie; and a granddaughter-in-law, Heather; and

3 WHEREAS, Elder Burris made countless lifelong friends and exceeded the lofty  
4 expectations set for him during his thirty-eight year tenure as pastor of Oak Grove Memorial  
5 Church; his signature scripture verse, from II Corinthians 5:7, reads: "For we walk by faith,  
6 not by sight"; this passage is a fitting testament to his faith and devotion throughout his  
7 inspiring career; he is most deserving of recognition.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
9 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Elder John W. Burris, Sr., on the occasion  
10 of his retirement; does hereby recognize Elder Burris's lifelong dedication to the service of  
11 his church communities; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that Elder Burris enjoy  
12 comfort and prosperity in retirement.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Elder  
14 John W. Burris, Sr.

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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 116 Original

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