

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY SENATOR JACKSON-ANDREWS AND REPRESENTATIVES FISHER AND MOORE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and recognize Pastor James Johnson, a dedicated educator, pastor, community leader, and servant of God, for his lifetime of service to the people of Louisiana and beyond.

WHEREAS, Pastor James Johnson was born in Chicago, Illinois, and through faith, education, and purpose, has lived a life of devoted service, impacting countless lives in the state of Louisiana and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Pastor James Johnson was united in holy matrimony to the late Nancy Taylor of Natchitoches, Louisiana, and is the proud father of Jarrell J. Johnson and Natalie N. Johnson Scott, and the loving grandfather of Jaylon "Ja-Bo" Johnson, Jeremiah Scott, and Kendall Scott; and

WHEREAS, he is a product of the Monroe City School System and a graduate of Grambling State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree, furthering his education with a Master's degree +30 hours from the University of Louisiana at Monroe, and religious training from Virginia Union Ministry in Richmond, Virginia, and U.T.S. in Monroe, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Johnson's professional journey includes distinguished service in education through the Hendry County School District in Clewiston, Florida; the Chicago Board of Education; and Monroe City Schools, where he served as a teacher at Carroll Junior High School, vice principal and later principal of Wossman High School, high school supervisor, and Title I and IV supervisor; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Johnson's leadership extends beyond education to his active participation in civic and professional organizations, including Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the NLEEC Advisory Board, Ouachita Parish Fire Commission, Green Oaks Detention Board, OIC Advisory Board, Interfaith of Northeast Louisiana, the Twin City Ministerial Alliance, the African American Museum Board of Directors, Tri-District Boys and Girls Club, and NOVA; and

WHEREAS, a devoted man of faith, Pastor Johnson was a member of First Missionary Baptist Church of Monroe, where he had served in numerous capacities including teacher, vice president of the Tenth District Association, Sunday School teacher, B.T.U. director, and as part of the trustee and deacon ministries; and

WHEREAS, he served faithfully as the pastor of New Light Baptist Church and formerly of True Light Baptist Church in Winnsboro, Louisiana, for over three decades, from 1989 to 2025, leading with a steadfast commitment to spiritual growth, evangelism, and community development; and

WHEREAS, under Pastor Johnson's visionary leadership, New Light Baptist Church achieved numerous milestones including the adoption of midweek services, development of the Brotherhood Ministry, Christian Education, Women's Ministry, Conquerors for Christ Young Adult Ministry, and Outreach Ministry; expansion of the New Light Economic Empowerment Corporation (NLEEC); completion of the computer lab; purchase of a 24-passenger church bus; property acquisition and community outreach events; and major renovations and improvements to church facilities including the rebuilding of the fire damaged Church Life Center, renovation of restrooms and sanctuary after a flood, and dedication of a Music Room in memory of Dr. Roosevelt Pine; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Johnson has nurtured spiritual growth and leadership in others, with numerous individuals acknowledging their callings to ministry under his administration, and has continually encouraged youth to participate in local, state, and national associations and conventions; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Johnson's life motto, "If I Can Help Somebody", perfectly captures his legacy of servant leadership, compassion, and unwavering dedication to God, family, education, and community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and recognize Pastor James Johnson for his extraordinary life of service and leadership, and enduring gratitude is hereby expressed for his many contributions to the state and the betterment of society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Pastor James Johnson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES