

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 96

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURRELL

A RESOLUTION

To commend Combs-McIntyre High School upon the celebration of its 2013 High School Reunion.

WHEREAS, on June 21 through June 23, 2013, the former faculty, staff, and students of Combs-McIntyre High School will celebrate their 2013 High School Reunion in Oak Grove, Louisiana, and it is appropriate to welcome them back home and to wish them a blessed, safe, and joyous reunion; and

WHEREAS, until 1969, when a major portion of the Oak Grove school burned down, Combs-McIntyre was the only school in Oak Grove that African American students could attend; and

WHEREAS, during the 1950s and 1960s, the educational opportunities for blacks in West Carroll Parish were minimal; there was one high school, one junior high school, and seven elementary schools, which were all severely understaffed and consisted of mainly one room; and

WHEREAS, two prominent black leaders at the time, Cube Combs, a progressive activist, and Lou McIntyre, a wealthy philanthropist, gave selflessly and tirelessly of their time, talents, and money to create a high school for the black students of West Carroll Parish, which provided them with a sufficient and adequate education and school facility; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Mr. McIntyre furnishing land for the school at a nominal price and Mr. Combs' vision, leadership, and determination for building a new school, the new facility was named Combs-McIntyre High School in their honor; and

WHEREAS, the first students to graduate from Combs-McIntyre High School in May 1955 were Frankie D. Nelson, Hattie B. Coleman, Ida Faye Cobb, Auther Fisher,

Annette Mare Gordon, Charles Pittman, Albert Brown, Allean Henderson, Ruth Henderson, Earl K. Jackson, Simon Leggart, Irene Ruffin, Norval Randolph, and Willie D. Williams;
and

WHEREAS, Combs-McIntyre High School alumni remember their school fondly as a great place to learn, a happy place to play, a wonderful place to spend time with friends, and a place where love was shared and discipline was enforced; and

WHEREAS, State Representative Roy Burrell is a proud alumnus of Combs-McIntyre High School; and

WHEREAS, the historical significance of Combs-McIntyre High School will forever remain in the hearts and minds of all who worked at or attended this historic institution, and it is fitting to extend to them best wishes for a joyous, safe, and successful reunion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby welcome the faculty, staff, and alumni of Combs-McIntyre High School back home to Louisiana, does hereby commemorate the enduring legacy and significant impact that Combs-McIntyre High School made in the Oak Grove community and West Carroll Parish, and does hereby extend full measures of happiness and prosperity to all participants of the 2013 Combs-McIntyre High School Reunion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Glenese Tolbert, chair of the Combs-McIntyre High School Reunion Committee.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES