

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 105

BY SENATORS TARVER, ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of the Reverend Danny Mitchell, former state representative for Louisiana House District No. 2.

WHEREAS, it is with great sadness and sorrow that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Reverend Danny Mitchell of Shreveport, on May 2, 2013, at the age of sixty-nine; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell, beloved husband of Yvonne Moore Mitchell, father of six children and ten grandchildren, was an esteemed public servant who left an indelible mark upon the lives of the citizens of Bossier and Caddo parishes; and

WHEREAS, in his early years, Reverend Mitchell developed an appreciation for the rewards of diligence by working as a caddy at a country club and picking and chopping cotton on a plantation; and

WHEREAS, he answered the first call to government service by enlisting in the United States Air Force, where he served honorably from 1964 through 1968; and

WHEREAS, while in the military, Reverend Mitchell enrolled in the University of Maryland and later completed his education at Southern University; and

WHEREAS, upon his discharge from the armed forces, he secured employment at a clothing store in Shreveport, which he eventually bought, and he opened a second business a short time later; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Reverend Mitchell answered a different call, one to the ministry of God's Word as a preacher and pastor, shepherding New Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church in Shreveport for many years; and

WHEREAS, his second call to government service came when he ran for and won the Louisiana House District No. 2 seat in 1992 and subsequently won reelection in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell successfully carried out the concurrent duties of legislator and pastor, and whether in the pulpit in Shreveport or at the state capitol in Baton Rouge, he fought against crime, poverty, and the racial division that he had witnessed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell's particular passion against gun crimes and violence led his multiracial congregation to offer summer programs and job-finding aid to youth in his district, which attracted the attention of Governor Edwin W. Edwards, who was the keynote speaker at the eleventh year anniversary, in 1992, of Reverend Mitchell's pastorship of New Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, his death has left a tremendous void in his church and in the community he served so well and has created a genuine sense of sorrow and loss in the many citizens whose lives he touched.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sorrow upon the death of the Reverend Danny Mitchell and does hereby extend sincere condolences to his family, congregation, and community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of the Reverend Danny Mitchell.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE