

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 179

BY REPRESENTATIVE HALL

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, June 9, 2015, as Zion Hill Church Day at the state capitol and to commend its church leaders and members for their unity and devotion to God.

WHEREAS, the Zion Hill Church in Pineville, Louisiana, was founded more than ninety years ago in the home of Reverend and Mrs. E. Z. Hall; and

WHEREAS, Zion Hill's vision is for its belief to line up with the Word of God and direct people to the Word of God; to worship, evangelize, disciple, fellowship, and minister; and for its members to be in constant worship and praise to God; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Joy Dara, Sr., was born in Nigeria, West Africa and became a United States citizen in 1998; and

WHEREAS, as a man who values education, Joshua Dara, Sr., earned an associate degree from Kwara State College of Technology in Nigeria; a bachelor's degree from California Baptist University in Riverside, California; a juris doctor degree from Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and a masters of law degree from the University of Arkansas School of Law in Fayetteville, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Joshua Dara, Sr., answered the call on his life and entered the ministry by serving under a number of pastors and ministry leaders across Africa and the United States; and

WHEREAS, as a committed man of God who is gifted with many talents, Joshua Dara, Sr., has served as a pianist, organist, music director, minister of music, associate pastor, and armor bearer; and

WHEREAS, after ten years of ministry work on two continents, Dr. Dara was ordained as a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ in 1990; and

WHEREAS, six years later, Dr. Dara became the pastor of Zion Hill Church and has taken the church to greater heights; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dara and his wife, Elizabeth, along with their five children, have been in proud and passionate service to Zion Hill for almost twenty years; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Dr. Dara, Zion Hill has grown from a humble church of seventy-five members to a thriving congregation of more than three thousand five hundred; and

WHEREAS, Zion Hill has several television broadcasts, a multimillion dollar sanctuary, a state-of-the-art Family Life Center, and plans for a school, business center, and new sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, with God's guidance and Dr. Dara's faithful obedience, Zion Hill offers more than fifty ministries that touch every aspect of life including the governmental affairs educational outreach program that educates young church members about government and is led by former state representative, Herbert B. Dixon, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, the members of this wonderful church, with its leaders, merit a special measure of recognition for the tremendous pride, honor, and spiritual growth they bring to the Pineville community and to the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, June 9, 2015, as Zion Hill Church Day at the state capitol and does hereby commend and welcome its church members to the legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the nineteen years of spiritual leadership, inspiration, and guidance that Dr. and Mrs. Joshua Joy Dara, Sr., have provided to their church and community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby wish Dr. Dara and the Zion Hill Church family full measures of success and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Joshua Joy Dara, Sr., pastor of Zion Hill Church.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES