

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 196

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Father Albert J. McKnight, C.S.Sp.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of Father Albert J. McKnight, C.S.Sp., on April 17, 2016, at the age of eighty-eight; and

WHEREAS, Father McKnight was born on August 18, 1927, in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, on August 15, 1947, he professed his vows as a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit at Holy Ghost Novitiate in Ridgefield, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, he was ordained a priest on June 6, 1952, at St. Mary's Seminary in Norwalk, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Father McKnight was first appointed to serve at St. Paul Church in Lafayette; he served for many years in various parishes throughout Louisiana including Our Lady of Lourdes, Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Martin de Porres, and Holy Ghost Parish; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, he established and served as president of the Southern Cooperative Development Fund; he served on many national philanthropic and human rights committees, including serving as the executive director of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus; and

WHEREAS, he served as a novice director in Texas for four years until he was asked to retire in Haiti to continue serving the poor; and

WHEREAS, he wrote a well known autobiography entitled *Whistling in the Wind*; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Althea Holmes McKnight; and his sister, Colleen McKnight; and

WHEREAS, Father McKnight is survived by his brother, Donald McKnight; his sister, Brenda Hubbard; and many nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Father Albert J. McKnight, C.S.Sp., will long continue to bring great pride and honor to the state of Louisiana, and he will be missed by so many in the communities he served in Acadiana and beyond.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Father Albert J. McKnight, C.S.Sp.; does hereby recognize his uncompromising endeavor to improve the welfare of his fellow citizens; and does hereby recognize and record for posterity his singular contributions and achievements, which will forever be remembered and continue to be a source of pride and honor for his family and friends, his order, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Father Albert J. McKnight, C.S.Sp.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES