

2016 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY REPRESENTATIVES GLOVER, BAGLEY, CARMODY, COX, EDMONDS, HALL,
HORTON, JENKINS, MIKE JOHNSON, JORDAN, JIM MORRIS, NORTON,
PRICE, REYNOLDS, AND SEABAUGH

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of the Reverend
Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
Louisiana House of Representatives learned of the death of the Reverend Dr. E. Edward
Jones, Sr., on Thursday, June 9, 2016, at the age of eighty-five; and

WHEREAS, E. Edward Jones, Sr., was born on May 3, 1931, in DeRidder; at the age
of seventeen, he attended Grambling State University, where he received a bachelor of
science degree in elementary education in 1952; and

WHEREAS, in 1949, at the age of eighteen, he became licensed to preach; he was
ordained a Baptist Minister in 1951; and

WHEREAS, on August 31, 1952, Reverend Jones was united in holy matrimony to
Leslie M. Alexander; their union was blessed with four children, nine grandchildren, and
five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, he received a bachelor of arts degree in religion and philosophy
from Bishop College; and

WHEREAS, early in his career, he was an elementary school teacher and a coach;
he helped build recreational facilities, educational facilities, and establish programs for the
youth to ensure their success as contributing citizens in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones served as pastor of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church
in Shreveport for nearly sixty years; and

WHEREAS, he was president emeritus for the National Baptist Convention of America; he was a strong advocate for the development of housing, education, and services for the black community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones was an important leader in the most difficult days of the civil rights movement; in 1957, he met Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and worked closely with him through the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones spearheaded the desegregation of the Caddo Parish School System in Shreveport; in 1965, he filed a lawsuit on behalf of his daughter, Beryl Jones, which led to her and two other students becoming the first black students to attend an all-white school in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones was viewed as a man with a vision; his passion for helping others was evident by his astounding accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, he was instrumental in creating Galilee City, an effort which helped revitalize Shreveport's Allendale neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, he was the recipient of numerous awards; he held more than eight honorary doctoral degrees, including a doctorate of Sacred Theology and a doctorate of humanities; he received the National Award for Outstanding Service by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and he was inducted into the Grambling State University Hall of Fame in 1986 and the Northwest Louisiana Hall of Fame in 1992; from 1986 to 2003, *Ebony* magazine listed him as one of the "100 Most Influential Black Americans"; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones built a legacy as a husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, pastor, community leader, civil rights activist, and denominational leader; and

WHEREAS, the death of the Reverend Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr., has left a tremendous void in his community and has created a genuine sense of sorrow in the many individuals who mourn the loss of the kind nature and bright mind of this wonderful man whose memory shall forever remain in their minds and hearts.

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 the Reverend Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr., and does hereby extend posthumous honor and recognition to Reverend Jones for his incomparable legacy which is marked by the deep

pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family and friends, his community, his church, and to the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of the Reverend Dr. E. Edward Jones, Sr.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES