

2018 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

BY REPRESENTATIVE BILLIOT

A RESOLUTION

To commend Pastor Donald R. Jones for his outstanding accomplishments and achievements as a business and spiritual leader in Jefferson Parish.

WHEREAS, a graduate of West Jefferson High School, Mr. Jones is a life-long resident of Jefferson Parish; he earned a bachelor of arts in political science from Xavier University and a bachelor and master of theology from A.P. Clay Christian Theological College; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones was the first African American to serve on the Jefferson Parish School Board; he was appointed to the board in 1989; and

WHEREAS, as a school board member, he implemented a recruitment program to increase the number of African American teachers in the system; he also oversaw the appointment of the first female superintendent in the Jefferson Parish school system; and

WHEREAS, Donald Jones was elected to the Jefferson Parish Council in 1991, becoming the first African American elected to that body; and

WHEREAS, as councilman, Mr. Jones had several notable accomplishments, including contributing to the creation of a healthcare clinic, two community centers, a walking track and swimming pool in Marrero, and two pumping stations to alleviate flooding; and

WHEREAS, he served as chairman of the Consultant Selection Committee for Jefferson Parish, the Solid Waste Landfill Committee, and the Eastbank Sewer Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, Councilman Jones facilitated programs to assist over one thousand five hundred families in Jefferson Parish to become first-time homeowners; and

WHEREAS, he was reelected by overwhelming majorities in 1995 and 1999; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones hosted *Jefferson Review Show*, a Cox Cable production featuring high-profile people, places, and events significant to Jefferson Parish; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of numerous organizations, including Alpha Phi Alpha, and has received several awards from community groups, civic associations, and political leaders; he is chairman emeritus of the Coalition for Leadership and Development; and

WHEREAS, Donald Jones is the founder and senior pastor of Bethesda House of Prayer in Marrero, Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Pastor Donald R. Jones for his honorable achievements and the exemplary strides that he has taken in his guidance of a loving and dedicated spiritual community; does hereby congratulate Bethesda House of Prayer as it celebrates the pastorship of Donald Jones; and does hereby wish Pastor Jones, his family, and his congregation full measures of success, happiness, and God's grace in all of their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Pastor Donald R. Jones.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES