

BY REPRESENTATIVES SELDERS AND JAMES

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Kwame I.

3 Asante.

4 WHEREAS, Kwame I. Asante was born in San Diego, California, on December 24,

5 1970, as James Elmer Franklin, III, to the union of James Elmer Franklin, Jr., and Lillian

6 Franklin; he accepted Christ at an early age and attended St. Stephens Church of God in

7 Christ while residing in San Diego; and

8 WHEREAS, Kwame was a member of the 1989 graduating class at Helix High

9 School in La Mesa, California; he was an avid scholar and athlete and served as the president

10 of his school's speech club; he received numerous awards at speech debates and achieved

11 the distinction of Eagle Scout; and

12 WHEREAS, upon graduating from high school, Kwame received a scholarship to

13 attend Southern University in Baton Rouge; at Southern, he played football and earned a

14 bachelor's degree in education; and

15 WHEREAS, Kwame embraced the culture of Louisiana and became a resident of

16 East Baton Rouge Parish for the remainder of his life; he began his career as a special

17 education teacher and taught at the middle school level for many years; and

18 WHEREAS, in the spring of 2000, he entered the Lambda Kappa Chapter of Omega

19 Phi Psi Fraternity and remained a loyal member; he pursued a law degree from Southern

20 University Law Center, graduating in 2003; and

1 WHEREAS, Kwame continued to be a consummate public servant while practicing
2 law; after volunteering for the NAACP as a college student, he was elected to serve at the
3 Baton Rouge Local Chapter in 2004; in the fall of 2005, he was hired by the national office
4 of the NAACP to serve as the Louisiana state director; and

5 WHEREAS, Kwame remained passionate for the education and advancement of the
6 Baton Rouge youth community; he established The Achievement Academy, a tutoring and
7 leadership program for youth, through which he introduced young adults to programs and
8 opportunities that they were previously unaware of so as to enrich the minds of new
9 generations; and

10 WHEREAS, Kwame I. Asante leaves to cherish his memory and legacy his daughter,
11 Zori Chaney; his mother, Lillian Franklin; his grandmother, Lucy Glover; aunts, Sarah
12 Jackson and Glenda Taylor; uncle, Gregory Franklin; and a host of cousins, relatives, and
13 friends; and

14 WHEREAS, Kwame I. Asante truly cared for his community and devoted his life to
15 the service of future generations; his career as an educator, lawyer, and NAACP leader have
16 left a truly inspiring legacy that will live on forever in the achievements of those who have
17 benefitted from his many works; he will be deeply missed.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Kwame
20 I. Asante; does hereby offer sincere gratitude for his efforts to provide new opportunities to
21 the youth of Baton Rouge; and does hereby extend sincere hopes and wishes that his family
22 find comfort during this difficult time.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
24 family of Kwame I. Asante.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]
