

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Reverend Shelton Charles Dixon on his twenty-fifth anniversary as an outstanding pastor and God's anointed spiritual leader of Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Shelton Dixon was born on May 3, 1965, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Dixon Sr., one of eight children; and

WHEREAS, he is married to Jacqueline J. Dixon, and they are the proud parents of Diamond NiJae Dixon; and

WHEREAS, upon accepting God's calling, Reverend Dixon preached his first sermon at the young age of twenty-two on June 30, 1987; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dixon was educated in the Calcasieu Parish Public School System; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dixon attended Calvary Theological Seminary in Lake Charles, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religious Education with a minor in Ministry; he also received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the Christian Bible College of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Reverend Dixon was selected as one of the "Fifty Leaders of Tomorrow" by *Ebony Magazine*; in 1997 he was honored as "Citizen of the Year" by the Lambda Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Fraternity, Inc.; in 1998 he was honored as "Minister of the Year" by the Early Risers Kiwanis Club; and in 2010 he was inducted into "The Fraternity of the Sword" at the Biblical Exposition Conference in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, as an effective and obedient servant of God, Reverend Dixon serves in various roles: he is the founder and pastor of Greater Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, the General Secretary of Third District Bogue Chitto General Missionary Baptist Association, the General President-Elect of the Louisiana Home and Foreign Missions Baptist Convention, Incorporated, the General Secretary of the National Baptist Convention of America International, Incorporated, and he serves on various boards; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 flood in Baton Rouge, Reverend Dixon taught by example that a child of God must "count it all joy" when facing trials and tribulations; and

WHEREAS, the flood destroyed Reverend Dixon's home, fifty-three members' homes, and the church, which required the membership to move their services to True Light Baptist Church for twenty-two months before repairs were completed; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to his pulpit, Reverend Dixon spoke not about what had been lost, but instead about what had been gained: new friends and new relationships with individuals and fellow churches that crossed racial lines and served as the epitome of the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Shelton Dixon, through his efforts to empower and enhance the quality of life for all individuals and families combined with his spiritual leadership, has made a significant and lasting impact on our community and state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Reverend Shelton Charles Dixon on his twenty-fifth anniversary as an outstanding pastor and God's anointed spiritual leader.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Reverend Shelton Charles Dixon.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE