

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 135

BY SENATOR STINE

A RESOLUTION

To commend The Most Reverend Glen John Provost, M.A., D.D. on the occasion of his 15th anniversary as Bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles.

WHEREAS, Glen John Provost was born August 9, 1949, in Lafayette, Louisiana; he answered a call to the priesthood, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, Louisiana, in 1971; and then studied at the North American College in Rome, Italy, from 1971-1975, completing a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from St. Thomas University in Rome in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Father Provost was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette by Pope Paul VI on June 29, 1975, in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, returning to Louisiana to become the associate pastor at St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Abbeville until 1983; and

WHEREAS, from 1983 until 2007, Father Provost served as pastor to several other Louisiana parishes, including St. Leo IV Parish in Roberts Cove, the Cathedral of St. John Evangelist in Lafayette, and Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Father Provost was appointed the third bishop of Lake Charles on March 6th by His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI; he was consecrated to the Episcopacy and installed as the third bishop of Lake Charles on Monday, April 23, 2007, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Lake Charles; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Provost was a judge with the Lafayette Diocesan Tribunal, served as liaison to the legal community, chairman of the Council of Priests, an instructor of Church history with the diaconate program in the Diocese of Lafayette, and an instructor in the Department of Theology for Church History at Aquinas Institute, Holy Cross College, Lafayette/New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, the many past positions he has served in, including chaplain to His Holiness, member of the board of governors for the Pontifical North American College, and a member of the subcommittee on African American Affairs, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, show that he has worked tirelessly to fulfill his motto, "He plants for those to come" - *Pro venturis serit*; and

WHEREAS, when Papal Nuncio informed Father Provost that he would be named the bishop of Lake Charles, he passed on his wisdom for the new bishop to always "Remember, it is His Church"; and

WHEREAS, inspired by those words, Bishop Provost led the way for many endeavors that honor and serve the Lord's Church, including the restoration of the century-year-old cathedral, expansion of service sites and work of Catholic Charities of Southwest Louisiana, creation of the Catholic youth camp known as Camp Karol, prioritizing the needs of Catholic education for students through devastating hurricane and pandemic times, and the founding of Vianney House of Discernment for young men considering a vocation to the priesthood before entering the seminary; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Provost is most deserving of recognition as a champion for the most needy and vulnerable in southwest Louisiana as well as an inspiration to his parishioners, Catholics throughout the state, and all who have the privilege of working with him on his many initiatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby join the Catholic Diocese of Lake Charles to commend The Most Reverend Glen John Provost on the occasion of his 15th anniversary as Bishop of the Diocese of Lake Charles and does hereby offer sincere congratulations and best hopes and prayers for continued fruitful labor in the vineyard of faith.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bishop Glen John Provost.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE