

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 46

BY SENATOR FIELDS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Pastor Ronnie O. Blake of Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church on his five years of service as the ninth elected pastor.

WHEREAS, Pastor Ronnie O. Blake was born the second of seven children to the union of Mr. Nathaniel Blake and Mrs. Johnnie Blake in Grambling, Louisiana, where he received his primary and secondary education; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake was baptized at an early age at Oakland Baptist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana, under the leadership of the late Reverend B. M. White; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake was called to preach the Gospel in 1988 at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, under the leadership of the late Reverend Charles L. Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Grambling State University, became a licensed minister on May 24, 1992, and furthered his religious training by receiving his degree in Christian Education in 1994 from Capital City Religious Institute in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake was ordained a minister of the Gospel on February 4, 1994, by the Fourth District Missionary Baptist Association under the leadership of Reverend Dr. Jesse B. Bilberry Jr. and served as interim pastor at Glen Oaks Baptist Church in Baton Rouge from June 1997 to June 1998; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake continued his education and training, obtaining a Bachelor of Theology degree from Christian Bible College in 2004, becoming a certified christian counselor by the American Association of Christian Counselors in 2007, and received his Doctor of Divinity degree from Christian Bible College in 2008; and

WHEREAS, since joining Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church in 1990, Pastor Blake has been a humble force in Mount Pilgrim's Street Ministry which he led for twenty years, taught in the adult division of the Higher Ground Fellowship Hour, led weekly Bible Study and taught christian education courses at various Fourth District Missionary Baptist Association and Louisiana Missionary Baptist State Convention events; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake is married to Izetta VanBuren Blake, and they are proud parents of Ramon Blake, married to Beulah Bowman Blake and Rolanda Blake Drake married to Noah Drake, and their twins Isaiah and Imani Blake, and doting grandparents of Blayden Blake and Omari Drake; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Blake's faith and family have been constant in his journey and his life while ministering for more than thirty years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize and commend Pastor Ronnie O. Blake on his five years of service as the ninth elected pastor of Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Pastor Ronnie O. Blake and Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE