

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 77

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Seabell "Mama" Thomas on the release of her second cookbook, "Mama's Silver Moon Cookbook"

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Seabell "Mama" White Thomas on a long career of community and public  
3 service and upon the release of her second cookbook, "Mama's Silver Moon  
4 Cookbook".

5 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Seabell "Mama" Thomas, a beloved  
6 Louisianian who has touched countless lives with her kindness, talents, and integrity; and

7 WHEREAS, Mama was born in Summit, Mississippi, to Aaron, a World War I  
8 veteran, and Mable White and grew up in a very large family; and

9 WHEREAS, upon graduating from high school, Mama worked at the Old Lincoln  
10 Beach, the East Baton Rouge Parish coroner's office, and eventually started her own dry  
11 cleaning business with her husband, Arthur Thomas; and

12 WHEREAS, Mama also worked at the South Baton Rouge Community Center,  
13 where she helped minorities prepare for job interviews, for entry into the professional  
14 workforce, and for training and business colleges; and

15 WHEREAS, after several years serving as a community organizer, Mama was  
16 promoted to a supervisor position; and

17 WHEREAS, during election season, Mama and her friends would carry carloads of  
18 people to the courthouse to register them to vote and help them complete the forms, and on  
19 election day she, along with her friends, would transport people to the polls all day long so  
20 that they could exercise their right to vote; and

1           WHEREAS, Mama was eventually selected as the Director of the South Baton Rouge  
2 Community Center, where she instituted swimming lessons, dance and aerobics classes, and  
3 many other interactive and educational programs; and

4           WHEREAS, Mama also served as the director of the veteran's program for the city  
5 of Baton Rouge, where she received many awards and accolades for raising the program to  
6 national recognition; and

7           WHEREAS, in 1986, Mama opened the Silver Moon Café near Louisiana State  
8 University, a daily lunch cafeteria in which she served smothered chicken, red beans, black  
9 eyed peas, mashed potatoes, candied yams, and baked ham, among other dishes; and

10           WHEREAS, the café became an LSU tradition, and on Wednesday nights, Mama had  
11 stand-up comedy, pool games, local bands, and a blues pianist at the café; and

12           WHEREAS, Mama is a highly admired and respected community activist and  
13 volunteer, and she merits a special measure of commendation upon the release of her second  
14 cookbook, "Mama's Silver Moon Cookbook".

15           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Seabell "Mama" White Thomas upon the  
17 release of her second cookbook, "Mama's Silver Moon Cookbook", does hereby recognize  
18 and record for posterity her singular contributions as a highly skilled community organizer,  
19 civic activist, and chef, does hereby express enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride  
20 and honor that she brings to her family, friends, community, and the entire state of  
21 Louisiana, and does hereby extend to this wonderful woman every good wish for health and  
22 happiness in the future.

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
24 to Seabell "Mama" White Thomas.

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#### 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)]

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James

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