HLS 13RS-2459 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 83

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of Donald Johnson of Gonzales

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To express the condolences of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana
3	upon the death of Donald Johnson and to commemorate the extraordinary legacy of
4	Christian works and service that he leaves behind.
5	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Louisiana House of
6	Representatives has learned of the death of Donald Johnson of Gonzales, Louisiana, on April
7	26, 2013; and
8	WHEREAS, Donald was born to Wilma W. Chatman and the late Thomas J. Johnson
9	in New Orleans, Louisiana, on November 30,1954, and was raised by his grandmother, the
10	late Willie Helen Johnson; and
11	WHEREAS, Donald accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior at an early age and stood
12	strongly and steadfastly in his faith for the remainder of his life; and
13	WHEREAS, on December 12, 1981, Donald married the late Joycelyn Ann Payton
14	Johnson and their union was blessed with four loving children: Linda Marie, Latasha Nicole,
15	David Dwayne, and Toi Cardell Johnson; and
16	WHEREAS, Donald spent his entire life giving to and nurturing others and he lived
17	each day with the goal of making a positive difference in the world with the Lord as his
18	source of guidance and strength, and he will always be remembered for singing his two
19	favorite hymns, "Walk Around Heaven" and "Trouble Don't Last Always"; and
20	WHEREAS, Donald was a devoted member of St. Paul Baptist Church of Gonzales,
21	Louisiana, for the majority of his life but later moved his membership to Beacon Light

1 Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, where he served as director of the adult choir and as a 2 transportation driver and choir member; and 3 WHEREAS, Donald was preceded in death by his wife Joycelyn Payton Johnson, his 4 grandmother, Willie Helen Johnson, his father Thomas J. Johnson, his sister Joyce Earl, his 5 maternal grandparents Albert and Willie Williams, mother-in-law Augustine M. White, and 6 a devoted cousin Oscar Tillman; and 7 WHEREAS, Donald leaves to cherish his memory two daughters, Linda Marie and 8 Latasha Nicole and husband Rodericka; three sons, Jeremiah Wenzy, David Dwayne and Toi 9 Cardell; two nephews whom he raised, Ken Barrow and Felton Payton, Jr., and wife 10 Veranique; and six grandchildren, Joy' Don, Jardon, LaTaijia, Dy'Rion, London, and Toi, 11 Jr.; and 12 WHEREAS, Donald also leaves to cherish his memory his mother Wilma W. 13 Chatman; brothers Roy Williams and wife Shirley, La James Chatman and wife Beance, 14 Pastor Kenny Chatman and wife Maria, and Randy Chatman and wife Vicky; sister-in-law 15 Lee Ester Barrow; brothers-in-law Perry Payton, Rev. Terry Coco and wife Debra, Felton 16 Payton and wife Katherine, and Ray Payton and wife Marie; aunts Audrey Sharper, Ruby 17 Sharper, and Ethel and Hilda Mae Williams; a devoted friend, Vethel Johnson, and a host 18 of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; and 19 WHEREAS, the death of Donald Johnson has left a great void in his community and 20 created a genuine sense of sorrow in all who knew him, and he will be greatly missed by all 21 whose lives he touched. 22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 23 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the 24 death of Donald Johnson and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and 25 honor that this extraordinary man will forever bring to his family and friends, his 26 community, and the state of Louisiana. 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted

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to the family of Donald Johnson.

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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)]

Barrow HR No. 83

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