

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY REPRESENTATIVE SHADOIN AND SENATOR GALLOT

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of Willie Davis, Jr., former Farmerville mayor

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Willie Davis,
3 Jr., the former mayor of Farmerville.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Legislature of
5 Louisiana has learned of the death of Willie Davis, Jr., former mayor of Farmerville, on
6 February 6, 2014; and

7 WHEREAS, Willie Davis, Jr., who was admired by all those whose lives he touched,
8 leaves behind a rich and unique legacy and will be greatly missed; and

9 WHEREAS, Willie Davis's journey began on December 5, 1929, as he was
10 welcomed to the Willie Davis, Sr., and Effie Island Davis family; he was the only child born
11 to this union; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis graduated from Union Parish Training School and attended
13 Olive Harvey College in Chicago, Illinois; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was a member of Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church until
15 he moved to Chicago in 1960, where he joined Christian Missionary Baptist Church and
16 served as a deacon under the leadership of the Reverend John Taylor; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1990, he and his family moved back to Farmerville where he rejoined
18 Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church and worked diligently as a deacon, treasurer, and
19 Sunday school teacher; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis loved his country and served in the United States Army
2 during the Korean Conflict; he worked and retired as an administrator for United Blood
3 Service and Research in Chicago; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis owned "D" Inc.-West Street Trailer Park and West Street
5 Day Care; he was also a past Master of Farmerville Lodge #203 F.&A.M. Prince Hall
6 Affiliation; he was a Sublime Prince L. R. Price Consistory #173, Monroe, Grand Inspector
7 General 33rd Degree United Supreme Council Southern Jurisdiction, past Illustrious
8 Potentate of the Imperial Council Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of Mystic Shrine
9 Jomadi Temple #171, and he was Worthy Patron of the Esther Grand Chapter O.E.S.
10 Budding Rose Chapter #86; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis had a thirst and determination to serve his fellow man; his
12 entire life was a demonstration of altruistic behavior; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was elected the first black mayor of Farmerville in 1992 and
14 was elected to four terms as mayor of his beloved town; he served with dignity, honor, and
15 distinction for more than sixteen years; and

16 WHEREAS, Mayor Davis was described as a mayor of all people; during his tenure,
17 he was instrumental in securing funding for the water supply and treatment plant, the
18 expansion of ConAgra Poultry, now known as Pilgrim's Pride, the construction of a new
19 police and fire complex, and many capital improvement projects, including the Farmerville
20 Recreation Center, which was renamed in his honor; and

21 WHEREAS, Mayor Davis met no strangers; he was affable and comfortable around
22 national figures, state officeholders, and everyday citizens, not only in Farmerville but
23 around the world; and

24 WHEREAS, Mayor Davis was a mentor to younger generations and a friend and
25 confidant to all; and

26 WHEREAS, Mayor Davis leaves to cherish his precious memories his loving and
27 devoted wife, Georgia Belle Davis; two sons, Willie A. Davis and Randall K. Davis, Sr., and
28 wife Japatra; a very special brother-in-law whom he considered a son, Earl "Sonny" Bernard
29 West and wife Carole; three daughters, Ruby J. Davis Parker and husband Archie, Linda G.
30 Davis Austin, and Valarie A. Davis Fite; three sisters-in-law, Maxine West Bridgeforth,

1 Hattye West, and Minnie Bob West; one brother-in-law, Kenneth L. West; eleven
2 grandchildren, Christopher Davis, Tenisha Austin, Sheena Parker, Jeffrey Fite, Geneva
3 Davis, Randall Davis, Jr., Genae Davis, Krystal Fite, Shailyn Parker, Justin Fite, and Jakarin
4 Fields; four great-grandchildren, Diamond Fite, Julian Powell, Kayla Davis, and Reagan
5 McDonald; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends; and

6 WHEREAS, Mayor Willie Davis walked with and among giants and did
7 extraordinary and lofty things, but he possessed and demonstrated the common touch; and

8 WHEREAS, with the death of Willie Davis, Jr., Louisiana has lost one of her finest
9 sons, a quintessential southern gentleman who loved his community and a man whose
10 accomplishments have left an indelible mark upon his town, state, and nation; and

11 WHEREAS, the death of Willie Davis has left a substantial void in the Farmerville
12 community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives he touched, and his memory shall
13 live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this remarkable
14 gentleman.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Willie Davis, Jr., of Farmerville;
17 does hereby record for posterity his singular and outstanding achievements, particularly
18 during his four terms as mayor; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the
19 tremendous pride and honor that he will forever bring to the town of Farmerville, the state
20 of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
22 to the family of Willie Davis, Jr.

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)]

Shadoin

HCR No. 11

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