

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 93

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church for its community involvement

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church for its community involvement.

3 WHEREAS, St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church was founded in 1880; it has been
4 led by five pastors over the course of its history: Reverend Joseph L. Dennis, Reverend
5 George Washington Williams, Reverend James Charles Wing, Reverend Talton Willie
6 Lewis, and its current pastor, Dr. Melvin Collins Zeno; and

7 WHEREAS, St. Joseph has provided disaster relief services on numerous occasions;
8 in 2016, the church helped salvage houses and provide food and clothing for victims of
9 disasters in South Carolina, and in 2017, it provided the same services to Hurricane Harvey
10 victims in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Port Arthur, Texas; in September 2020, the
11 church provided gift cards and cash assistance to residents of Lake Charles following
12 Hurricane Laura; and

13 WHEREAS, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the church's Feeding Ministry
14 provided more than six thousand meals annually; it has also assisted Habitat for Humanity
15 in the construction of twenty-three houses, and its Philadelphia Missionary Ministry
16 continues to help house the homeless and feed the hungry; and

17 WHEREAS, St Joseph instituted a social justice ministry in 2019 to help the
18 community understand the rights and privileges of American citizens; the ministry has
19 brought in representatives to discuss child care, child support and custody, domestic
20 violence, and voters' rights; and

1 WHEREAS, during the pandemic, St. Joseph distributed shoe boxes filled with
2 personal items and distributed gift bags of healthy foods at the Ozanam Inn; the church also
3 delivered turkey baskets to families for Thanksgiving and distributed gifts to foster children
4 for Christmas; and

5 WHEREAS, St. Joseph also offers youth enrichment programs to the members of its
6 community; the church's Boys to Men program offers mentorship to boys ages five to
7 seventeen; the church's Youth and Young Adult Department organized its Education
8 Incentive Program to motivate children to strive for academic success; and

9 WHEREAS, St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church is an invaluable institution in
10 Jefferson Parish, and it is most deserving of recognition for its community involvement.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
12 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church for
13 its community involvement; does hereby recognize the church's dedication to Jefferson
14 Parish and people in need everywhere for over one hundred forty years; and does hereby
15 extend sincere hopes that it continue to serve as a beacon of light in times of darkness.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
17 pastor of St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church.

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)]

HR 93 Original

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Lyons

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