

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 175

BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOX

A RESOLUTION

To commend Pope Leo XIV on his ascension to the papacy, to commemorate his Creole lineage and ancestral ties to the Seventh Ward of New Orleans, and to express support for the canonization of Venerable Henriette DeLille.

WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV, born Robert Francis Prevost, became the two hundred sixty-seventh leader of the Roman Catholic Church on Thursday, May 8, 2025, following his election during the second day of the 2025 papal conclave; he is the second pope from the Americas, behind Pope Francis, and the first-ever pope from the United States; and

WHEREAS, prior to his election as pope, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was an American missionary from Chicago, Illinois, who spent his career ministering in Peru; he was appointed by Pope Francis as president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America in 2023, and the same year, he was made a cardinal; he was appointed as a cardinal-bishop assigned as the titular bishop of the Suburbicarian Diocese of Albano in February 2025; and

WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV has connections to the 7th Ward in New Orleans through his maternal grandmother, and his great-grandmother was baptized in St. Louis Cathedral in the French Quarter; and

WHEREAS, Venerable Henriette DeLille was a woman of Creole descent who was born in the Tremé neighborhood of the 7th Ward; she founded the Sisters of the Holy Family and dedicated her life to educating slaves, caring for the poor, and uplifting the community through faith and service; her canonization would represent a monumental step in recognizing the historical impact of black Catholic leadership in the United States.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Pope Leo XIV on his ascension to the papacy; does hereby commemorate his Creole lineage and ancestral ties to the 7th Ward of New Orleans; and does hereby express support for the canonization of Venerable Henriette DeLille.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES