



1 charged to "institutionalize and internationalize nonviolence", and this challenge shaped his  
2 life as an activist, minister, educator, lecturer, and authority on Kingian Nonviolence; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. LaFayette attended the Boston University School of Law and  
4 Harvard University; he completed a master of education degree from Harvard in 1972 and  
5 a doctor of education degree in 1974; he taught at numerous colleges and universities and  
6 served as the senior scholar in residence at the Candler Divinity School at Emory University;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. LaFayette served as president of American Baptist College and as  
9 chair of the national board of the SCLC; in 2013, he published a memoir entitled *In Peace*  
10 *and Freedom: My Journey in Selma*; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. LaFayette received numerous awards and honors, including the  
12 Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Reconciliation and Peace in 2016; he is featured  
13 in the book *The Children* and in numerous documentaries, including *When I Get Grown: The*  
14 *Story of How Bernard LaFayette, Jr. Became a Freedom Rider*; and

15 WHEREAS, Bernard LaFayette, Jr., was married to the former Kate Bulls and was  
16 the father of two sons and grandfather of seven grandchildren; he will be deeply missed, but  
17 his legacy of service during the civil rights movement and to social justice causes across the  
18 nation shall live on in perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to  
19 have known him.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
21 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Bernard  
22 LaFayette, Jr.; does hereby extend enduring appreciation for his contributions to the civil  
23 rights movement in the United States; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that his family,  
24 friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

---

#### 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 35 Original

2026 Regular Session

Walters

Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Bernard LaFayette, Jr.

