

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 337

BY REPRESENTATIVE PHELPS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Green Whitaker, Sr., on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Green Whitaker, Sr., on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday.

3 WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Green Whitaker, Sr., who has been a  
4 witness to history throughout his long life, and to commend the occasion of his one  
5 hundredth birthday; and

6 WHEREAS, Green Whitaker, Sr., was born on February 2, 1926, to Estella and Isaac  
7 Whitaker; he was the second youngest of nineteen children who were raised in the  
8 agricultural community of Holly in DeSoto Parish, Louisiana; his family lived on eighty  
9 acres of land, purchased by his father, where they cultivated nearly all of their food; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Whitaker's daughter, Anita "Nita" Whitaker, chronicled her father's  
11 upbringing in her award-winning book, *When Your Hand is in the Lion's Mouth: The Life  
12 and Wisdom of a Man named Green*; and

13 WHEREAS, the Whitaker family property was found to be a source of oil, and the  
14 family established a drilling rig and began pumping and selling oil; the discovery drew  
15 attention from oil drillers who unsuccessfully attempted to purchase the property; drillers  
16 tapped into the source of oil from an adjacent property, which led to salt contamination of  
17 the Whitaker property and marginalized the once-arable farmland; and

18 WHEREAS, the Whitaker family sold the property and pivoted to sharecropping on  
19 the Frierson Plantation; Isaac Whitaker, a man of great character, compassion, intelligence,  
20 generosity, and love for his family, maintained his family's resilience and instilled these  
21 qualities in his children; and

1           WHEREAS, Green emerged as a budding entrepreneur in his adulthood; he was  
2 married to the former Ola Mae White for twenty-eight years before her passing on  
3 November 21, 1977, and they raised four children: Green, Jr.; Alene; Kathy; and Anita; he  
4 established his family on 73rd Street in the Cedar Grove community in Shreveport,  
5 Louisiana, and supported many others in the community; and

6           WHEREAS, Green dedicated thirty-five years of service as a school bus operator for  
7 the Caddo Parish School Board, and during one period of his life, worked five part-time  
8 jobs; he established a takeout food business with his wife, served as the founder and co-  
9 owner of Good Samaritan Funeral Home for twenty-one years, and worked as a successful  
10 insurance salesman for more than sixty-eight years; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Whitaker has served as a deacon for more than seventy-five years,  
12 and he is known in the Cedar Grove community and beyond as a man of great insight,  
13 kindness, and integrity; he is a lifelong singer and was a member and manager of a local  
14 gospel group named The Spiritual Jubilee; and

15           WHEREAS, Mr. Whitaker volunteered as a foster grandparent in his late eighties and  
16 played the role of Jesus in a musical production in his nineties; he continues to serve as an  
17 incredible father and mentor to his children and others; and

18           WHEREAS, the last-living member of his large family, Mr. Whitaker remains a  
19 beloved and highly respected resident of the city of Shreveport, where he is treasured as a  
20 consistently positive role model, faith warrior, and source of fatherly inspiration; and

21           WHEREAS, Green Whitaker, Sr., is an inspiring Louisianian with a wealth of  
22 experience spanning countless disciplines; he is truly deserving of the highest recognition  
23 for his incredible contributions throughout his life.

24           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
25 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Green Whitaker, Sr., on the occasion of his  
26 one hundredth birthday and does hereby extend sincere wishes that he remain prosperous  
27 and in good health as he joins the exclusive club of Louisiana centenarians.

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)]

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HR 337 Original

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