

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY REPRESENTATIVE PATRICK WILLIAMS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Harry Blake for his contributions to at-risk youth through the Canaan Boys Academy in Shreveport, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Dr. Harry Blake is a graduate of Bishop College in Dallas, Texas; served as a devoted pastor for the Mount Canaan Baptist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana, for forty-eight years since 1966; currently holds the position as President Emeritus of the Louisiana Baptist State Convention; was appointed vice president for the Southwest Region of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., in 2009; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, Dr. Harry Blake was honored by receiving an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities from Louisiana Baptist University and the Louisiana Democratic Party's Lifetime Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harry Blake has notably held many honorable positions, such as general secretary of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., moderator of the Thirteenth District Baptist Association, dean and vice president at large of the Congress of Christian Education of the Louisiana Baptist State Convention, and chairman of the Evangelical Board of the Louisiana Baptist State Convention; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harry Blake has devoted his time to enhance his local community in Shreveport by being a member of the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board, serving as president of the board of directors of a low-income housing complex and a senior citizen and handicap housing complex, and serving as a member for a development corporation for the revitalization of the Allendale community; and

WHEREAS, other distinctive achievements of Dr. Harry Blake include serving as president of Project UpLift, a center for the development of human potential, serving on the board of directors for Shreveport Bossier Community Renewal, past president of the

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, field secretary for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and past president of Mount Canaan Day Care Center; and

WHEREAS, because of Dr. Harry Blake's numerous accomplishments, he has been a guest lecturer at many colleges throughout the United States, some of which include Morehouse School of Divinity, Arkansas Baptist College, American Baptist College, and Birmingham Bible College; and

WHEREAS, Mount Canaan Baptist Church was led by Dr. Blake in establishing a model prayer service that has been emulated throughout the nation; he has instituted ministries to serve all segments of the congregation and community, which include tutoring programs, children's and young adults' ministries, family ministry, and a prison ministry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harry Blake's vision to serve his community has contributed to the creation of the Canaan Boys Academy, which is an academic program at Mount Canaan Baptist Church that aims to advance education in young African American boys in third through fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, the Canaan Boys Academy seeks to improve the students' skills in reading, writing, and math.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Harry Blake for his contributions to at-risk youth through the Canaan Boys Academy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Harry Blake.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES