

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY SENATOR GALLOT AND REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences upon the death of Irene Baldwin.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Irene Baldwin.

WHEREAS, Irene Baldwin, (known as "Sister"), was born July 13, 1924, to the late Floyd Rice Jr. and Annie Smith Rice, in Natchez, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, she accepted Christ and was baptized at an early age at Milford Baptist Church, attended Milford School, and graduated with honors as the valedictorian of her class; and

WHEREAS, Irene Baldwin was married to the late Reverend Shead Baldwin Sr. and born to this union were eight children, one of whom passed in July 1968; and

WHEREAS, Reverend and Mrs. Baldwin believed in educational opportunity and made sure each of their children received diplomas and later enrolled in a college of their choice; and

WHEREAS, Irene Baldwin later studied and received her certification in social work, through programs provided by the State Department of Health and Human Services and her work experience included the Belmont Hotel and social work through the Department of Human Resources in Natchez, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Baldwin moved her membership from Milford B.C. to King

1 Solomon B. C. in the city of Natchez, where she served on the Usher Board and Deaconess
2 Board, worked in the JMA ministry, the Missionary Society, and sponsored the Red Circle
3 and the YWA for many years; and

4 WHEREAS, each year she worked and raised money to take youth on trips
5 throughout the country as she believed that all children should be exposed to as much as
6 possible; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Baldwin stood by her husband during his forty-six years as a
8 pastor and was by his side during the Civil Rights Movement of the late fifties and sixties
9 as she and her children endured harassment, verbal and sometimes physical abuse during his
10 back-to-back terms as President of the NAACP during the sixties; and

11 WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her parents Floyd and Annie Rice; her
12 husband, Reverend Shead Baldwin Sr.; her son, Shead Baldwin Jr; son-in-law Prince Borten;
13 daughter-in-law Patricia Lewis Baldwin; her brothers: Lee Oscar Rice,
14 Reverend Floyd Rice III, George Woods Jr. , Robert Woods, Monroe Woods, Roy Reese
15 Rice, Mack Roy Rice, Clarence Pullins, Rev. Horace Pullins, Willie Pullins, and Freddie
16 Pullins; her sisters: Nellie Rice Yancy, Ora Lee Batiste, and Annie Mae Pettis and her
17 stepmother Pearline Rice; and

18 WHEREAS, Irene Baldwin leaves five daughters, Eloise Harris (Dave), Dr. Odessa
19 Borten (Prince-deceased), Dr. Betty Cade (Robert), Martha Jean Fairley (Leonard), Dr.
20 Annie Bass (B.J.); two sons, retired Lieutenant Roosevelt "Johnny" Baldwin
21 (Patricia-deceased) and Dr. Jerry Baldwin (Juliet), and one adopted son, James Baldwin
22 (Dora); twenty grandchildren, twenty-four great-grandchildren, two
23 great-great-grandchildren, one aunt Marie Rice, and godchildren Clarence Hayes, Johnny
24 Lee Rice, and Anthony Dunbar; four brothers Percy Rice (Jessie), Roosevelt Woods (Freddie
25 Mae), Ernest Johnson (Ollie), and Flemon Pullins (Susie); six sisters, Dora Stanton, Eugenia
26 Lewis, Velma McCray (Wilbert), Rosie Lee Woods, Edna Harper, and Florida Anthony
27 (Randolph), and a host of relatives and friends; and

28 WHEREAS, Irene Baldwin was a kind and gentle soul and upon her death the world
29 lost a unique individual who left an indelible mark on the lives of all those who had the
30 honor of meeting her or the privilege of having known her; and

1 WHEREAS, her passing has left a void in her community and has created a genuine
2 sense of profound sorrow for her friends and family and will be forever remembered.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
4 express sincere condolences to the family of Irene Baldwin on the occasion of her death.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST

Gallot

SCR No. 111

Expresses condolences upon the death of Irene Baldwin.