

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 139

BY REPRESENTATIVE HONORE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Friday, May 15, 2015, as a significant date in the history of black law enforcement officers with the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office.

WHEREAS, for fifty years, there have been efforts to close the gap between the black community and law enforcement officers with the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, May 15, 1965, is a significant date in the history of black law enforcement officers; on this date, Dalton Honoré became the first African American deputy sheriff in East Baton Rouge Parish; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office has made efforts to hire more black law enforcement officers to serve the East Baton Rouge Parish community and the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers fulfill a great calling in upholding the rule of law in society and it is important to recognize the efforts taken since 1965 to diversify the law enforcement officers who serve with the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana wishes to recognize the enduring legacy of the following black law enforcement officers who served the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office during the 1960s under the leadership of Sheriff Bryan Clemmons: the law enforcement officers hired in 1965 include Dalton Honoré, Bobby Freeman, Claude Boatner, James London, Joe Alex, Albert Anderson, Joseph Booker, and Charles Slan, and the law enforcement officers hired during the remainder of the 1960s include Shelton Briggs, Douglas Caufield, Harold Chapman, James Chinn, David Crawford, Ernest Frank, Thomas Fluker, William Garrison, Silas Gerald, Thomas Hutcherson, Richard Jackson, Arthur Johnson, Royal McCastle, Nathaniel Montgomery, Charles Smith, Roger Smith, Lionel Sterling, Charles Taylor, Frank Taylor, and Hal Ray Tolbert.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Friday, May 15, 2015, as a significant date in the history of black law enforcement officers with the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office and does hereby commemorate black law enforcement officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their community and, in doing so, have established for themselves an enduring legacy of preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that suitable copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the law enforcement officers listed in this Resolution.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE