SLS 18RS-3110

ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 153

BY SENATOR TARVER

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the death of Norma Jean Jernigan Blake.

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3	death of Norma Jean Jernigan Blake of Shreveport.
4	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
5	Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of Norma Jean Jernigan
6	Blake on April 21, 2018, after being stricken with a massive stroke, at age eighty; and
7	WHEREAS, she was born on January 22, 1938, in Shreveport, Louisiana, to the late
8	Claude and Nancy (Gilliam) Jernigan, was a graduate of Booker T. Washington High
9	School, and there she met her husband, Pastor Harry Blake; and they were married on
10	August 31, 1958, and are the parents of four children; and
11	WHEREAS, while, her husband, Pastor Harry Blake is a recognized icon in the Civil
12	Rights Movement, she was the force behind the force that lead to justice and equality for
13	many; she was the First Lady of the Mount Canaan Missionary Baptist Church for fifty-two
14	years where she was also an active member; and
15	WHEREAS, Norma Jean Blake is survived by her beloved husband of fifty-nine
16	years; daughters, Elizabeth (Kerek), Monica (Collier); sons, Harry (Evelyn) and Rodney;
17	sixteen grandchildren; one sister, Claude Ester; brothers-in-law Herman (Mary) and Robert
18	Blake; a sister-in-law, Carol Blake Rachal (John); and a host of nieces, nephews and other

1	relatives; and
2	WHEREAS, in every circumstance in which she served, Norma Jean Jernigan Blake
3	was known and loved as the epitome of a pastor's wife, whether in the local church pastorate
4	or the administrative work of the district; her happy personality and dedication to Christ and
5	His church inspired and challenged all whom she met; and
6	WHEREAS, the loss of Norma Jean Jernigan Blake has left a tremendous void in her
7	community and has created a genuine sense of sorrow in the hearts of all whose lives she
8	touched.
9	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
10	does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Norma Jean
11	Jernigan Blake of Shreveport, does hereby express enduring appreciation for her
12	contributions during a lifetime of dedication and service to her family, friends, church, and
13	community, and does hereby recognize that her legacy will live forever in the hearts and
14	minds of all who knew and loved her.
15	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
16	Pastor Harry Blake.

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

SR 153 Original

DIGEST 2018 Regular Session

Tarver

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