

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 176

BY REPRESENTATIVE NEWELL

A RESOLUTION

To commend Mable Harris Thomas on the occasion of her one hundredth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Mable Harris Thomas and to commend her as she approaches the incredible milestone of one hundred years of life; and

WHEREAS, Mable was born on May 14, 1926, in Napoleonville, Louisiana, the youngest of four children born to Andrew and Florestine Harris; and

WHEREAS, Mable was baptized by her uncle, Reverend Freddie Southall, at Beulah Baptist Church in Bertrandville, Louisiana; she has been a member of First Zion Baptist Church, Phillip's Memorial United Methodist Church, Napoleon Ave United Methodist Church, and Rayne Memorial United Methodist Church, and her service is known throughout the United Methodist community; and

WHEREAS, Mable has a passion for education, which she discovered at an early age, and she walked nearly four miles to attend a one-room school in Napoleonville; she graduated from Lowery Training School in Donaldsonville, Louisiana, and went on to attend Grambling College; and

WHEREAS, while at Grambling, Mable met her husband, Joseph "Brushback" Thomas, who was a standout member of legendary Coach Eddie Robinson's Grambling football team; she later transferred to Leland College in Baker, Louisiana, and earned a bachelor's degree in education; and

WHEREAS, Mable enjoyed a thirty-one year career as an educator in Assumption and Jefferson Parishes; she consistently pursued excellence in her field and obtained a certification to teach special education from Dominican College; after retiring, she served as a minute clerk in New Orleans Traffic Court under Judge Louis Trent; and

WHEREAS, after dedicating many years of service as a minute clerk, Mable embarked on a life of travel and volunteer work with numerous charitable organizations; she became the first lieutenant for the neighborhood watch program in Hollygrove, where she has resided since 1956; she is a familiar face at meetings of the 2nd District Police Station and a friend of each councilman who represented her in District "A"; and

WHEREAS, Mable has been a member of Delta Sigma Theta for forty-five-years, and she is a devoted supporter of the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans; and

WHEREAS, Mable is the mother of Cardell A. Thomas; grandmother of Jeandele Frank, Austin Thomas, and Jordan Thomas; great-grandmother of Charlie J. Thomas; and godmother of Arnell Chatman, Spergeon Holly, and Corey Peterson; she also has numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins who cherish her; and

WHEREAS, Mable Harris Thomas has lived a life defined by unwavering hospitality and love, and she is most deserving of the highest recognition as she approaches this incredible milestone.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Mable Harris Thomas as she approaches her one hundredth birthday and does hereby extend sincere wishes that she remain prosperous as she joins the exclusive club of Louisiana centenarians.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES