

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 382

BY REPRESENTATIVE LARVADAIN

A RESOLUTION

To commend Pastor Joshua Joy Dara, Sr., on the occasion of the celebration of his thirtieth anniversary as pastor of Zion Hill Church.

WHEREAS, Dr. Joshua Joy Dara, Sr. was installed as pastor of Zion Hill Church on June 2, 1996; he accepted the sacred responsibility of ministering with faith, humility, wisdom, and unwavering commitment; and

WHEREAS, throughout thirty years of dedicated pastoral service, Pastor Dara has faithfully proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ and led with integrity and a steadfast devotion to spiritual growth, discipleship, and kingdom building; and

WHEREAS, under Pastor Dara's visionary leadership and anointing, Zion Hill Church has experienced remarkable growth and development, increasing its membership from seventy-five to more than three thousand five hundred, which has made it the largest African American church in Central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dara's charismatic and unique style of preaching and teaching fills the Pineville, Louisiana, sanctuary every Sunday and reaches thousands of followers nationally and internationally on social media; he speaks every weekday morning on KALB-News Channel 5 and spreads hope, joy, and love throughout the community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dara has cultivated and nurtured spiritual leadership by guiding and mentoring more than forty associate ministers and supporting the development of Sons and Daughters of the House, which has created a legacy of leadership and ministry that extends to future generations; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dara's ministry has transcended the walls of the church and reached into the broader community through his dedicated service and involvement with numerous organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Rapides Foundation, Hope House, the Manna House, the Food Bank of Cenla, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Rapides Symphony Orchestra, and the United Educational Missionary Baptist Association;

he serves as a commissioner on the England Authority, where he provides leadership promoting economic development; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Dara has previously served the community through his engagement with various organizations, including Turning Point Shelter, Shepherd Center, and Cenla Interfaith, which exemplifies his commitment to service and meeting the needs of humanity; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Joshua Joy Dara, Sr., has served as a pastor, mentor, counselor, teacher, leader, and servant whose ministry has strengthened families, empowered individuals, and transformed countless lives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Pastor Joshua Joy Dara, Sr., for thirty years of faithful service as pastor of Zion Hill Church; does hereby express gratitude for his steadfast leadership, tireless dedication, and enduring commitment to the church and the community; and does hereby offer sincere wishes that he continue to prosper as he fulfills his call to ministry.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES