

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 145

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Louisiana, upon the celebration of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of
3 Louisiana, upon the celebration of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary.

4 WHEREAS, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted
5 Masons of Louisiana, has a long and storied history in this state and it is appropriate to
6 commend it upon the historic occasion of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary; and

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana roots of the Lodge can be traced back to 1849, when
8 several black Masons in New Orleans petitioned for dispensation to open a new Lodge in
9 the city, thereby creating the Richmond Lodge in New Orleans; and

10 WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana was founded in New Orleans
11 on January 5, 1863, after which it adopted the name "Eureka Grand Lodge" and was
12 incorporated in 1869 as "The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons for
13 the State of Louisiana"; and

14 WHEREAS, a critical and formative period in both the Lodge's history and the
15 history of the Masonic organization involved the fight over the sovereignty of the state
16 jurisdictions; and

17 WHEREAS, the Eureka Grand Lodge, later renamed the "Most Worshipful Prince
18 Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Louisiana", fought valiantly
19 for the sovereignty of the state jurisdictions and ultimately severed ties with the National
20 Grand Lodge over the issue; and

1 WHEREAS, throughout the fight over state jurisdiction sovereignty and the ensuing
2 struggles, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge remained stalwart and no Lodge
3 that remained faithful to it lost a charter during this tumultuous period; and

4 WHEREAS, this indomitable spirit that has characterized the history of the Lodge
5 survives today, and the Lodge remains a cornerstone of Louisiana's civic and social
6 improvement, supporting such institutions and organizations as the Red Cross, the Urban
7 League, and the National Negro College Fund, as well as being actively involved in
8 vocational guidance endeavors to educate parents, children, and teachers on job
9 opportunities; and

10 WHEREAS, such an historic and esteemed organization as the Most Worshipful
11 Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Louisiana, deserves recognition for
12 its history of civic and social leadership and charitable endeavors and upon the joyous
13 occasion of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
15 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand
16 Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Louisiana, upon the celebration of its one hundred
17 fiftieth anniversary, does hereby record for posterity all of the service and contributions that
18 this exceptional organization has made to the state of Louisiana, and does hereby express to
19 all Masons in the state of Louisiana full measures of success and happiness in the future.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
21 to the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted
22 Masons of Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Smith

HR No. 145

Commends the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Louisiana, upon the celebration of its 150th anniversary.