

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2013**

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT OCTOBER 2013 AS HOUSING AMERICA MONTH AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.**

By: COUNCILMAN SAM JENKINS

**WHEREAS**, for more than 70 years it has been the policy of this nation, under the US Housing Act to promote the general welfare of the nation by employing its funds and credit to assist the several states and their political subdivisions to remedy the unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions and the acute shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwellings for families of lower income; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the “State of the Nation’s Housing” report 15.6 million households now pay more than half of their income for housing; and

**WHEREAS**, according to current estimates, on any given night, there are nearly 750,000 homeless nationwide and up to 3.5 million persons who experience homelessness at some point throughout the year; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition’s “Out of Reach” report, minimum wage earners are unable to afford even a one-bedroom home anywhere in the country, and 88% of renters in cities live in areas where the fair market rent for a two-bedroom rental is not affordable even with two minimum wage jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Housing Conference, health care workers and many other working professionals are priced out of homeownership in the majority of U.S. metropolitan area nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the Housing Assistance Council, 1.7 million (6.3 percent) of rural homes were considered substandard in 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, public housing is home to over 2 million people, more than 40 percent of whom are children, and faces an estimated \$18 billion - \$20 billion backlog in capital repairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Council of Large Public Housing Authorities; Enterprise Community Partner; Habitat for Humanity International, Housing Assistance Council; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Manufactured Housing Institute; Mortgage Bankers Association; National Association of Counties; National Affordable Housing Management Association; National Association of Home Builders; National Association of Realtors; National Council of State Housing Agencies; National Housing Conference; National Housing Trust; National League of Cities; National Leased Housing

Association; National Low-Income Housing Coalition; Public Housing Authorities Directors Association; and U.S. Conference of Mayors are united in an effort to raise public awareness of the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned groups have declared October Housing America Month part of a year-long, national campaign to inform the public and decision makers of the critical need to address the nation's housing and community development concerns.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Shreveport in due, legal and regular session convened, which has, over a period of many years, endeavored to address affordable housing needs and has been successful in doing so using a combination of local, state and federal resources hereby endorses the Housing America Campaign, its goals, objectives and purposes and in so doing recommits itself to meeting the affordable housing and community development needs of the community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if any provision or item of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or application, and to this end, the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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City Attorney's Office