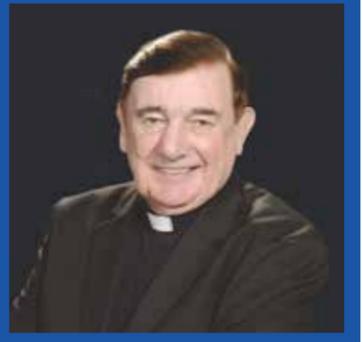


Beloved St. Alphonsus Pastor
Father Mike Moroney,
Native of Ireland,
Celebrates
50 Years as Priest
See Story on Page 4



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Rebuke of Gov. Edwards for Arrest of Rev. Tony Spell

Louisiana Legislature Suspends Criminal Penalties for Pastors

Law Used by JBE To Have Rev. Spell Arrested Can't Be Used to Jail Pastors

Woody Jenkins
Editor

BATON ROUGE — Early in the pandemic last spring, Gov. John Bel Edwards used a provision of Louisiana's emergency powers law to have Central pastor Tony Spell arrested for holding worship services at Life Tabernacle Church on Hooper Road.

Now, in a surprise move, the Louisiana Legislature has suspended the power of the governor to levy criminal penalties against a pastor in such circumstances.

Gov. Edwards is now considering what bills passed by the legislature he will sign or veto, but this



LEGISLATURE VINDICATED Rev. Tony Spell and suspended criminal penalties Governor had used to prosecute the pastor. law is not among them. The legislature used a little-known provision of the Louisiana Constitution to make sure the governor could not veto its actions. Under Art. 3, Sec. 20, the legislature can by resolution suspend a law, and that is not subject to veto. Rep. Danny See **CRIMINAL** on Page 3

Huge Victory in U.S. 5th Circuit for Central Pastor

Woody Jenkins
Editor

NEW ORLEANS — In April 2020, Rev. Tony Spell was arrested by

Central Police Chief Roger Corcoran for holding worship services despite orders from liberal Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards. At the time, Rev. Spell received some

sage advice from one of his lawyers. Baton Rouge attorney Joe Long urged the pastor to go slow on pursuing his legal remedies. "People aren't thinking clearly

during this pandemic. They are doing things they would never do in normal times, and that includes the courts. Let the panic subside, and See **HUGE** on Page 7

Voters Guide: How Legislators Voted in 2021

How Reps, Senators Voted During Legislative Session

BATON ROUGE — It is almost impossible for the ordinary citizen to keep up with how his representa-

tive and senator votes in the legislature. There are simply too many bills and too many votes. Things

move fast at the legislature, and even if you were there full-time, you probably couldn't keep up.

However, now the **Central City News** is publishing its first-ever **Voters Guide to the 2021 Legislative Session**.

The Guide focuses on the key votes during the session that separated conservatives from liberals.

A high rating is an indication a state representative or senator has a conservative voting record, and a low score reflects a liberal voting record. The **Central City News** contracted with independent researcher Susie Labry to do the research for the rating.

One senator and two state representatives had a 100 percent rating on the scale — Sen. Heather Cloud and Reps. Raymond Crews and Rick Edmonds.

See **VOTERS GUIDE** on Page 13



CONSERVATIVE WOMEN TAKE LEAD — Republican State Reps. Valarie Hodges (R-Central), Kathy Edmonston (R-Prairieville), and Beryl Amedee (R-Houma) have some of the best conservative voting records in the legislature and handled key bills.