

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Friday, May 9, 2014, as Provider Appreciation Day and encourage all citizens to recognize the important work of those who are responsible for the education and care of children, including licensed child care providers.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to set aside a special day in recognition of child care providers, teachers, and other educators of young children everywhere on May 9, 2014, the Friday before Mother's Day; and

WHEREAS, Provider Appreciation Day is a special day to recognize child care providers, teachers, school-age program staff, child care center directors and staff, and all those who work with children and are responsible for their education and care; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that nearly eleven million children under the age of five are cared for by two million eight hundred thousand child care providers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Provider Appreciation Day began in 1996 by a group of volunteers in New Jersey who saw the need to recognize the tireless efforts of providers who care for children of working parents; and

WHEREAS, momentum and support for this nationally recognized event has grown each year and presently includes individuals and government organizations throughout North America, Europe, and Asia; and

WHEREAS, the Child Care Association of Louisiana, a statewide, nonprofit organization that represents the interests of licensed child care providers and the children they serve, wholeheartedly endorses and promotes Provider Appreciation Day; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Child Care Association of Louisiana is to educate, advocate, and collaborate to build a premier, proactive child care industry for Louisiana families; and

WHEREAS, the president of the Child Care Association of Louisiana, Alan Young, promotes the idea that every child should have access to a high-quality early childhood educational program and be prepared to enter kindergarten ready to learn; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to the importance of high-quality child care services for all children and families within the state of Louisiana, the Child Care Association of Louisiana and other advocacy organizations hope to improve the quality and availability of such services; and

WHEREAS, our future depends upon the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today and high-quality child care services represent a worthy and commendable commitment to our children's future.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Friday, May 9, 2014, as Provider Appreciation Day and does hereby encourage all citizens to recognize the important work of all those who are responsible for the education and care of children, including licensed child care providers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Alan Young, president, and Cindy Bishop, executive director, of the Child Care Association of Louisiana.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES