## A RESOLUTION

To designate Thursday, May 9, 2024, as Communication Health Awareness: SpeechLanguage Pathologist and Audiologist Day in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Speech-Language Hearing Association (LSHA) provides a vital service to the citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, speech-language pathologists (SLPs) diagnose, evaluate, and treat a wide range of communication disorders such as speech sound disorders, language delays, fluency disorders, voice disorders, cognitive-communication disorders, and feeding and swallowing disorders; and audiologists (AuDs) diagnose and treat balance and hearing disorders; and

WHEREAS, SLPs and AuDs work in a variety of settings, including schools, hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and in private practice, to help individuals of all ages improve their communication skills and overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, SLPs play a critical role in the education and development of children by helping them learn to speak clearly and understand language, and providing avenues for them to participate fully in school and social activities; AuDs are among the first professionals to identify hearing loss, which can be a contributing factor to overall communication development; and

WHEREAS, SLPs provide essential services to adults who have experienced strokes, brain injuries, or other neurological conditions that affect their communication abilities; AuDs serve all those who experience hearing loss.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Thursday, May 9, 2024, as Communication Health Awareness: Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist Day in the state and does hereby acknowledge the important contributions of speech-language pathologists and audiologists to the health and well-being of the citizens of Louisiana.

