

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARRAS

A RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, April 18, 2017, as LSU Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors operates a statewide comprehensive university with a public mission focused on education, research, and outreach; and

WHEREAS, LSU's educational mission encompasses two-year programs, progressing through four-year and doctoral programs, including law and medicine; the only schools in the state for dentistry and veterinary medicine are a part of the LSU system; and

WHEREAS, the LSU faculty educates approximately forty-five thousand students statewide, and the system has set records in student enrollment, diversity, and graduate numbers in recent years; and

WHEREAS, LSU's flagship campus in Baton Rouge has had great success in improving the socioeconomic status of its students; LSU ranks fifth in the Southeastern Conference and twentieth among flagship schools in moving students out of the bottom sixty percent of the income scale; LSU ranks tenth among flagship schools in enrolling students from the bottom forty percent of low and middle-income students; LSU graduates typically earn higher-than-average salaries and finish with little to no debt; and the university remains committed to transforming lives in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, LSU campuses in Alexandria, Eunice, and Shreveport have experienced enrollment growth, have initiated new federally-funded programs to improve education, and have enjoyed philanthropic success in recent years, all while providing affordable, quality education for their communities and regions; and

WHEREAS, the LSU Health Sciences Centers in New Orleans and Shreveport serve as the most effective way to address the annual need for nearly four hundred new primary care physicians and to provide our citizens with the treatment options they need; ninety percent of students enrolled in LSU's Health Sciences Centers are Louisiana natives, more than half of those students choose to stay in the state for their residencies, and seventy-five percent of the students elect to practice in the state where they have trained; and

WHEREAS, LSU conducts fifty-nine percent of university-based, federally-funded research in the state, executes sixty-five percent of the licenses, holds sixty percent of the invention disclosures and patents granted, and earns eighty percent of the licensing income in Louisiana; with a portfolio of nearly \$1 billion in annual research funding, LSU has the resources to solve problems faced by Louisiana's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the LSU Agricultural Center has operations in every parish, which provide training and outreach in food and nutrition, rural development, and sustainable agriculture, to help promote the livelihoods of Louisianians; and

WHEREAS, the LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center conducts extensive research on chronic diseases that present disproportionate challenges to the state, including obesity and diabetes research; and

WHEREAS, LSU's outreach and impact is felt off-campus: the university system is responsible for nearly forty thousand jobs and has an economic impact of \$3.9 billion; LSU's AgCenter supports more than two hundred thousand students through more than one thousand seven hundred 4-H clubs across the state; and LSU students provide more than seventy thousand hours of volunteer service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, April 18, 2017, as LSU Day at the state capitol and does hereby acknowledge the university's valuable contributions to the residents of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to LSU president, F. King Alexander.