

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 41

BY REPRESENTATIVE PATRICIA SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To recognize May 2010, as Drug Court Month.

WHEREAS, drug courts are an important part of the criminal justice system and are a very effective tool for reducing rates of substance abuse and crime; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty years, drug courts have been restoring lives, reuniting families, and making communities across the nation safer; and

WHEREAS, drug courts provide focus and leadership for community-wide partnerships, bringing together public safety and public health professionals in the fight against drug use and criminality; and

WHEREAS, results of more than one hundred program evaluations and at least four meta-analytic studies have yielded definitive evidence that drug courts are demonstratively effective and significantly improve substance abuse outcomes and substantially reduce rates of drug abuse and crime at less expense than any other justice strategy; and

WHEREAS, more than twenty-seven thousand judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, substance abuse and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement and community supervision personnel, researchers and educators, national and community leaders, and others dedicated to the work of drug courts and similar types of treatment programs are healing families and communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, the drug court movement has grown from the twelve original drug courts in 1994 to more than two thousand four hundred operational drug courts today; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to set aside a special month in celebration of the promise of recovery and restored hope for drug court graduates and their families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize May 2010, as Drug Court Month in honor of practitioners and participants who contribute to the success of drug courts and to combating substance abuse and crime.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the drug court coordinator, Nineteenth Judicial Court District.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES