

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 46

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates April 13, 2022, as Child Advocacy Center Day in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Wednesday, April 13, 2022, as Child Advocacy Center Day in Louisiana.

3 WHEREAS, Louisiana child advocacy centers have made valuable contributions to
4 Louisiana and have helped make the state a better place for children and families; and

5 WHEREAS, the year 2022 marks the thirty-first year that child advocacy centers
6 have existed in the state of Louisiana, a tradition that began with the establishment of the
7 Jefferson Children's Advocacy Center in Gretna in 1991; and

8 WHEREAS, April has been designated as National Child Abuse Prevention Month;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, one in ten children will experience sexual abuse before the age of
11 eighteen; and

12 WHEREAS, Louisiana's child advocacy centers provide services to over 6,000
13 children each year in every parish of the state for cases involving physical abuse, neglect,
14 sexual abuse, human trafficking, domestic violence, and homicide; and

15 WHEREAS, Louisiana's child advocacy centers provide education and raise
16 awareness to facilitate the prevention, identification, and reporting of child abuse, and in
17 2021, such centers reached over 36,000 professionals and community members; and

18 WHEREAS, the purpose of Louisiana's child advocacy centers is to provide every
19 child victim a comfortable, child-friendly environment for forensic interviewing, victim
20 advocacy, mental health, and other services to put an end to further trauma and promote
21 healing; and

1 WHEREAS, child advocacy centers work with multidisciplinary teams of
2 professionals to coordinate child abuse investigation and intervention, including district
3 attorneys, members of the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services, members
4 of various law enforcement agencies, medical and mental health providers, and victim
5 advocates; and

6 WHEREAS, child advocacy centers use evidence-based practices to support child
7 well-being, and research demonstrates that this approach improves outcomes for children,
8 reduces trauma for families, and saves taxpayer money; and

9 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers is the state
10 chapter established to advocate for, and facilitate the collaboration of, Louisiana's child
11 advocacy centers; and

12 WHEREAS, similarly, the Louisiana Alliance for Children's Advocacy Centers
13 provides a wide range of critical services to local member centers, including training,
14 technical assistance, data collection, and advocacy; and

15 WHEREAS, with ten centers that are currently fully accredited members in good
16 standing with the National Children's Alliance, and up to five centers that are on the path to
17 national accreditation, Louisiana's child advocacy centers are part of a network of over 900
18 centers across the nation that serve over 350,000 children annually.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, April 13, 2022, as Child
21 Advocacy Center Day in Louisiana and does hereby commend the staffs of child advocacy
22 centers for their excellent work and dedication on behalf of the citizens of Louisiana.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
24 president of the board of directors of the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers,
25 and the executive director of the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 46 Original

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