

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 71

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Thursday, May 6, 2021, as Literacy Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, 74% of Louisiana's fourth grade students do not read proficiently, and dyslexia is a specific learning disability that affects as many as one in five people; and

WHEREAS, students who do not read proficiently by the end of the third grade are four times more likely to drop out of school, and those who have not mastered at least a basic level of reading proficiency are nearly six times as likely to leave school without earning a diploma; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana spends more than \$270 million annually to remediate students who read below grade level, thus making reading an activity that has both educational and economic significance; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Development and Learning was founded in 1992 to develop and disseminate leading-edge scientific research, knowledge, and best practices that improve teaching and increase student learning; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Development and Learning focuses on closing the achievement gap by increasing teacher effectiveness and advancing public education reform and by providing educators who teach our most at-risk children with professional learning that is specific and targeted to their needs; and

WHEREAS, with an in-the-trenches approach, the Center for Development and Learning tackles real-world issues in an effective way by searching for ways to remediate struggling readers, differentiate instruction for diverse learners, and build and sustain collective capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Education has emphasized the importance of improving Louisiana's literacy rates, and has launched a new initiative to spark a reading revival across the state by providing tools for system leaders, classroom teachers, and family members to support children on their journey to literacy; and

WHEREAS, improving the literacy rates in Louisiana is necessary to increase a student's success in all areas of his education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Thursday, May 6, 2021, as Literacy Day at the state capitol and does hereby commend and thank the Center for Development and Learning for its dedication to improving reading proficiency in all of Louisiana's students.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES