

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 79

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEOPOLD

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, May 7, 2013, as Dental Hygiene Day and to commend the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association and the dental hygienist profession upon the celebration of its one hundredth anniversary.

WHEREAS, May 7, 2013, has been designated Dental Hygiene Day in the state; and

WHEREAS, 2013 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the dental hygienist profession which began with the opening of the first dental hygiene school by Dr. Alfred C. Fones in Bridgeport, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, a dental hygienist is a preventative oral health professional licensed in dental hygiene who provides educational, clinical, and therapeutic services supporting health care through the promotion of optimal oral health; and

WHEREAS, the education of a dental hygienist emphasizes all of the basic sciences and eligibility for licensure is based on successful completion of both a written National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and a clinical state board examination; and

WHEREAS, dental hygienists are committed to maintaining the highest levels of service and to keeping abreast of the most advanced technological developments in their field, and they advocate continuing education courses in oral health care to maintain their licenses and to ensure that they provide state-of-the-art oral hygiene to their patients; and

WHEREAS, a dental hygienist is a vital member of a complete dental team and is responsible for providing treatment that helps to prevent oral disease and for educating the patient on how to maintain optimal oral health; and

WHEREAS, for over eighty-nine years, registered dental hygienists have provided quality preventative oral health care to millions of American adults and children; and

WHEREAS, dental hygienists have established a record of excellence in providing quality care for patients with special needs; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately one thousand six hundred licensed dental hygienists serving the oral health care needs of the people of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is designated as Dental Hygiene Month, focusing on the maintenance of good oral hygiene; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association, along with other dental professions, celebrated the Children's Dental Health Month in February, which focused on the oral health care needs of the children of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the contributions of dental hygienists and to encourage citizens to become familiar with the benefits of good dental hygiene.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize May 7, 2013, as Dental Hygiene Day and commends the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association and dental hygienists in Louisiana upon the one hundredth anniversary of the profession.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES