

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY SENATOR BROOME AND REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, April 28, 2015, as "Healthy Start Day" at the Louisiana Legislature and commend the city of New Orleans, Family Road of Greater Baton Rouge, Crescent City WIC Services of Gretna, and Family Tree Information Education Counseling Center of Lafayette for their contributions in improving the health of Louisiana moms and babies.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Louisiana Legislature to commend the city of New Orleans, Family Road of Greater Baton Rouge, Crescent City WIC Services of Gretna, and Family Tree Information Education Counseling Center of Lafayette for being awarded a grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services to operate Healthy Start programs in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has charged these local agencies receiving the federal grant with the task of improving access to care, promoting quality services, strengthening family resilience, and improving program accountability; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Healthy Start Program is to give pregnant women the resources they need to improve their own health and the health of their babies; and

WHEREAS, the Health Resources and Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, which began funding fifteen Healthy Start Initiatives in 1991, currently has over one hundred five such projects in thirty-nine states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy Start Program Infant Mortality Reduction initiative is a valuable resource and intervention program made available to eliminate disparities in perinatal health resulting from multiple factors including race, education, income, disability, or living in a rural area and to reduce negative birth outcomes that directly affects the infant mortality rate by providing home visitation, case management, outreach, health education, and depression screening; and

WHEREAS, this free program, which is not based upon income, targets African-American women, but services are provided to any eligible member residing in the targeted parishes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, April 28, 2015, as "Healthy Start Day" at the Louisiana Legislature and does hereby commend the city of New Orleans, Family Road of Greater Baton Rouge, Crescent City WIC Services of Gretna, and Family Tree Information Education Counseling Center of Lafayette for their contributions in improving the health of Louisiana moms and babies.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES