

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize May 5th through 11th, 2013, as National Arson Awareness Week in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the United States Fire Administration (USFA) has announced that the Arson Awareness Week (AAW) 2013 theme is "Reducing Residential Arson"; and

WHEREAS, USFA and partners around the nation will use this week in May to focus public attention on residential arson and provide communities with tools to reduce the incidence of this crime; and

WHEREAS, this year's goal of AAW is to provide all residents with strategies to combat arson in their neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, two new tropical fire reports focus on the characteristics of civilian fatalities and injuries from residential building fires for the period of 2009-2011, with bedrooms as the leading location where both civilian fire fatalities and injuries occurred; and

WHEREAS, between 2008-2010, statistics show that annually in the United States, an estimated sixteen thousand eight hundred intentionally set fires in residential buildings resulted in an estimated two hundred eighty deaths, seven hundred seventy-five injuries, and five hundred ninety-three million dollars in annual property loss; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has documented fourteen thousand seven hundred seventeen different law enforcement agencies reporting forty-three thousand four hundred twelve arsons in 2011; and

WHEREAS, arsons involving single occupancy and other residential structures accounted for more than twenty-nine percent of the total number of arson offenses; and

WHEREAS, the public is being encouraged, during Arson Awareness Week, by implementing neighborhood cleanups, along with improving internal and external security for their homes and abandoned properties.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby give the highest tribute to all fire and law enforcement investigative agencies for their dedicated and tireless service, especially during National Arson Awareness Week.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES