

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY SENATOR MILLS

SENATE. Recognizes August 15th as a day to honor the Feast of the Acadians.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize August 15th as a day to honor the Feast of the Acadians.

3 WHEREAS, August 15th, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin
4 Mary, is also the Feast of the Acadians; and

5 WHEREAS, the Acadians originally sailed to Nouvelle-Écosse under the star of Our
6 Lady of the Assumption and again during the Grand Derangement; and

7 WHEREAS, the Acadian flag, both Canadian and Louisiana Acadian, highlights the
8 centrality of Our Lady of the Assumption for the Acadian people; and

9 WHEREAS, the gold star on a white field represents Our Lady of the Assumption,
10 Patroness of the Acadians; and

11 WHEREAS, when the first settlers departed France for the New World, the Virgin
12 Mary was highly revered, and it was a period of great devotion to her; and

13 WHEREAS, The King of France, Louis XIII, and Pope Pius XI declared the Virgin
14 Mary the patroness of the kingdom, Patronne de Royaume and Patroness Saint of all the
15 Acadians in Canada, Louisiana, and elsewhere; and

16 WHEREAS, on August 15, 1638, France and its colonies were consecrated to Mary
17 under the title "Our Lady of the Assumption", and August 15th has been celebrated as the
18 National Day of the Acadians with corresponding festivities in the areas where Acadians

1 have settled; and

2 WHEREAS, in 2015, on the Feast of the Acadians, a Mass was held in honor of the
3 Feast of the Assumption in Leonville followed by a thirty-five mile boat procession with the
4 Blessed Sacrament, a Statue of the Assumption, and Acadian flags; and

5 WHEREAS, approximately two thousand people gathered for the Mass, procession,
6 and arrival at Evangeline Oak in St. Martinville; and

7 WHEREAS, at the request of many, Bishop Jarrell has approved the Fete-Dieu du
8 Teche to be held annually on August 15th to celebrate the Feast of the Acadians, their arrival
9 in Acadiana, and the importance of their contributions to the culture of Louisiana.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
11 does hereby recognize August 15th as a day to honor the Feast of the Acadians.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Fr.
13 Michael Champagne.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

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