

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 57

BY SENATOR ROBERT MILLS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize May 3, 2023, as Literacy Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, seventy-four percent 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, the Center for Literacy and Learning was founded in 1992 and is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary as an organization dedicated to facilitating leading-edge scientific research, knowledge, and best practices that improve teaching and increase student learning; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Literacy and Learning and the Louisiana Department of Education have formed a partnership to improve the state's literacy rates; and

WHEREAS, with an in-the-trenches approach, the Center for Literacy 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 Center for Literacy and Learning and the Louisiana Department of Education have created a key partnership emphasizing the importance of improving our state's literacy rates and launched the Literacy Coach Program in 2020. As of the 2022-2023

school year, the Literacy Coach Program has served twenty local education agencies across eighteen parishes, sixty-five schools, and fifty-two literacy coaches; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Center for Literacy and Learning successfully advocated for the legislative creation of the Early Literacy Commission consisting of a body of experts guiding the future of literacy policy and programming; and

WHEREAS, improving literacy rates in Louisiana is necessary to increase Louisiana students' success in all other areas of education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the dedicated work of the Center for Literacy and Learning and does hereby extend gratitude for its work in improving reading proficiency in all of Louisiana's students; and does hereby designate May 3, 2023, as Literacy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Center for Literacy and Learning.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE