

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY SENATOR BISHOP

A RESOLUTION

To recognize April 25, 2019, as Jack and Jill Day at the capitol.

WHEREAS, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is a membership organization of mothers with children ages 2 - 19, dedicated to nurturing future African-American leaders by strengthening children through leadership development, volunteer service, philanthropic giving, and civic duty; and

WHEREAS, the late Marion Stubbs Thomas founded the organization on January 24, 1938, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as twenty mothers came together to discuss creating an organization to provide social, cultural, and educational opportunities for youth between the ages of 2 and 19; in 1946, ten chapters were involved in the national restructuring process as the constitution and bylaws were drawn up, and Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated was formed under the laws of the state of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, today Jack and Jill boasts more than 230 chapters nationwide, representing more than 40,000 family members, and each chapter plans annual programming activities guided by a national theme; and

WHEREAS, through service projects, Jack and Jill of America creates a medium of contact for children to stimulate their growth and development; and

WHEREAS, through lobbying, educational programming, dissemination of education materials, and the organization of community and charitable events, Jack and Jill has promoted the public awareness and interests of children including child development, child growth, child quality of life, child care, and the promotion of children's rights; and

WHEREAS, each year the organization seeks to create opportunities for children to understand the power of each citizen's voice by exposing them to the legislative process during a Legislative Day at the capitol providing teens with an opportunity to attend legislative meetings, tour their state capitol, visit the offices of their representatives, and to network; and

WHEREAS, teens are usually provided with a curriculum in advance designed to encourage and prepare them in understanding how to use their voices to make a positive impact on their communities and this curriculum allows them to explore a variety of lessons including learning who their representatives are, understanding the issues that affect youth, becoming familiar with the structure of their state government and the issues affecting their local communities and their state; and

WHEREAS, a 5A Action Plan is implemented within the organization to increase the "Legislative Sphere of Influence":

Align: To talk, To listen, and To educate

Activate: Leading, Communicating, and Planning

Advocate: Making Your Voice Heard

Act: Leveraging Organizational Momentum, Getting Out the Vote

Acknowledge: Making a Difference; and

WHEREAS, through this plan the goal is to create in the children educated and engaged citizens who can carry on the legacy of advocacy and civic duty that allows them to be agents for change within their local community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Jack and Jill merits a special measure of commendation as they visit the Louisiana State Capitol on Thursday, April 25, 2019.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize April 25, 2019, as Jack and Jill Day at the capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE