

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 189

BY SENATOR MORRISH

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Designates Tuesday, May 8, 2018, as Teacher Appreciation Day at the state capitol.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Tuesday, May 8, 2018, as "Teacher Appreciation Day" at the state capitol.

3 WHEREAS, public school teachers, nonpublic school teachers, and parents who
4 serve as home study teachers serve the needs of nearly nine hundred thousand Louisiana
5 children from birth to twelfth grade; and

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana teachers serve students in diverse settings including
7 prekindergarten programs, traditional and charter public schools, nonpublic schools,
8 parochial schools, Montessori schools, virtual schools, home schools, and early learning
9 centers; and

10 WHEREAS, the efforts of over forty-seven thousand Louisiana public school
11 teachers have resulted in tremendous gains for Louisiana students year after year; and

12 WHEREAS, in the past five years, the percentage of students scoring "Mastery" and
13 above on the LEAP in grades three through eight has increased thirteen percent; and

14 WHEREAS, the number of students earning a college-going score of at least eighteen
15 on the ACT has increased by six thousand nine hundred eighty since 2012 and the number
16 of students scoring twenty-one or above has increased by three thousand eight hundred
17 ninety-six; and

18 WHEREAS, since 2012, the number of students earning Advanced Placement credit

1 each year has increased by more than three thousand seven hundred, an increase of more
2 than one hundred thirty-seven percent; and

3 WHEREAS, more students graduated in 2016 than ever before with a graduation rate
4 of seventy-seven percent, an increase of over three thousand four hundred students since
5 2012; and

6 WHEREAS, the rate of students enrolling in college is also on the rise, with fifty-
7 eight percent of students enrolling in 2015; and

8 WHEREAS, teachers are not only expected to be experts in their content and
9 pedagogical approaches, but also effectively address the individual interests, strengths, and
10 needs of their students and communities, often teaching multiple siblings, relatives, and
11 generations of students during their careers; and

12 WHEREAS, teachers' responsibilities can extend far beyond those listed in their job
13 descriptions, and their time commitment can extend far beyond the daily bell-to-bell; it is
14 not uncommon for teachers to make extra time for parents before the school day starts,
15 squeeze in tutoring during the few free minutes of the school day, run clubs or coach sports
16 after school, chaperone, supervise, or cheer on students during weekends, and instruct
17 students who need extra help over the summer; and

18 WHEREAS, teachers often reach beyond their students to ensure that parents,
19 grandparents, and extended families, who may have struggled in school themselves, receive
20 the knowledge and resources they desire to help their children in any way they can; and

21 WHEREAS, while society holds teachers to the highest professional standards,
22 expecting them to serve as model citizens by demonstrating patience, empathy, and fairness
23 always, many teachers surpass our expectations by choosing to serve as mentors, counselors,
24 and even parents when students lack the needed and deserved support; and

25 WHEREAS, countless Louisiana citizens attribute their professional success and
26 personal happiness to a teacher who chose to care.

27 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
28 does hereby commend the dedicated work and contributions of all teachers across the state
29 of Louisiana; does hereby extend enduring appreciation and gratitude for their role in
30 shaping the intellect and character of our next generation; and does hereby designate

