HLS 19RS-2668 ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 85

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 15, 2019, as School Choice Day at the state capitol

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To recognize Wednesday, May 15, 2019, as School Choice Day at the state capitol.
3	WHEREAS, parents should have a wide range of high-quality school options to
4	choose from, be it traditional public schools, public charter schools, private schools, or
5	virtual learning programs; and
6	WHEREAS, in Louisiana, charter schools are tuition-free, public schools that are
7	independently run by a nonprofit community board and that are authorized to operate by an
8	elected board, either a local school board or the state Board of Elementary and Secondary
9	Education; and
10	WHEREAS, in exchange for increased accountability, charter schools are allowed
11	increased autonomy; and
12	WHEREAS, during the 2018-2019 fiscal year, a total of 84,000 students were
13	enrolled in one hundred fifty-six schools in twenty-five parishes; and
14	WHEREAS, private school choice programs give students, including those from low-
15	income families and those with special needs, the opportunity to receive tuition to attend a
16	private school that meets their needs; and
17	WHEREAS, since first launched in New Orleans in 2008 and expanded statewide in
18	2012, the publicly funded Louisiana Scholarship Program has helped thousands of Louisiana
19	families receive the financial resources to choose a school that best fits their children; and

1	WHEREAS, during the 2018-2019 fiscal year, a total of 6,892 students were able to
2	use the Louisiana Scholarship Program in a total of one hundred twenty-one schools within
3	thirty-one school districts; and
4	WHEREAS, the average scholarship for a Louisiana Scholarship Program recipient
5	was \$6,100; and
6	WHEREAS, the Tuition Donation Credit Program gives low-income Louisiana
7	families the financial resources to choose a school that will best prepare their children for
8	the future; and
9	WHEREAS, the Tuition Donation Credit Program provides tax credits to taxpayers
10	who donate to tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations that provide students scholarships,
11	and such organizations use these donations to provide scholarships to students in low-income
12	families; and
13	WHEREAS, during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, a total of 2,018 students in one
14	hundred seventy-four schools were able to use the Tuition Donation Credit Program; and
15	WHEREAS, the School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities
16	gives families of students with disabilities additional financial resources to attend
17	participating schools that offer special needs programs; and
18	WHEREAS, during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, a total of three hundred ninety-one
19	students in nineteen participating schools were able to use the School Choice Program for
20	Certain Students with Exceptionalities.
21	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
22	designate Wednesday, May 15, 2019, as School Choice Day at the state capitol and does
23	hereby encourage all Louisianians to learn more about the school choice programs that
24	benefit children and their families across the great state of Louisiana.
25	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26	Louisiana state president of the American Federation for Children.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 85 Original

2019 Regular Session

Jimmy Harris

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