

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY REPRESENTATIVES JAMES, CARPENTER, BRASS, BRYANT, GARY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, COX, DUPLESSIS, GAINES, GLOVER, GREEN, HUGHES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, DUSTIN MILLER, MOORE, NEWELL, PHELPS, PIERRE, SELDERS, AND WILLARD AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, FIELDS, HARRIS, JACKSON, PEACOCK, PETERSON, PRICE, AND TARVER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the National Association of Real Estate Brokers and to recognize April 11-17, 2021, as Realtist Week at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, formed in 1947, the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, or NAREB, is the oldest minority real estate trade association in the country; and

WHEREAS, NAREB's founding motto, Democracy in Housing, succinctly expresses the organization's purpose and focus; and

WHEREAS, NAREB's approach to increasing black wealth includes financial education, homeownership preparation and counseling, outreach to faith-based, civic, and community organizations, and education on the importance of home ownership; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, homeownership for black Americans has been on a steady decline since 2004, when it reached its peak of nearly fifty percent; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, during the fourth quarter of 2020, the black homeownership rate is 44.1%, which compares unfavorably with the non-Hispanic white homeownership rate of 74.5%; and

WHEREAS, NAREB's 2 Million New Black Homeowners Program, or 2MN5, was initiated to reverse the wealth drain among black Americans; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Real Estate Broker Association, a local chapter of NAREB, will host Realtist Week on April 11-17, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Realist Week will be held to raise awareness that building black wealth through homeownership not only improves the community's economic fabric, but also enhances the financial futures of members of the community; and

WHEREAS, Realist Week also commemorates the fifty-second anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, which made housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, family status, or disability illegal; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Real Estate Brokers Association joins NAREB chapters nationwide in observing Realist Week; and

WHEREAS, Realist Week will feature a week-long series of events that are designed to reach black residents where they live, work, socialize, and worship; and

WHEREAS, throughout the week, a series of activities will heighten public awareness about the importance of homeownership as a pivotal foundation for wealth-building; and

WHEREAS, in addition, members of the association will meet with policymakers and elected officials to ensure that affordable and sustainable homeownership is supported at the legislative level, through regulatory action or through the use of city planning.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the National Association of Real Estate Brokers for its valuable efforts to promote homeownership in minority communities and hereby recognizes April 11-17, 2021, as Realist Week at the state capitol.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE