

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 95

BY SENATOR ROBERT MILLS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Wednesday, May 4, 2022, as Literacy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, 74% 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, 20% of the population; 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 & Learning was founded in 1992 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary facilitating leading-edge scientific research, knowledge, and best practices that improve teaching and increase student learning; and

WHEREAS, The Center for Literacy & Learning uses its 386 years of combined professional education experience to focus on closing the achievement gap by increasing teacher effectiveness and advancing public education reform by providing educators who teach our most at-risk children with professional learning that is specific and targeted to the needs of those students and their fellow teachers; and

WHEREAS, with an in-the-trenches approach, The Center for Literacy & Learning tackles real-time challenges such as remediating struggling readers, differentiate instruction for diverse learners, and build and sustain collective capacity; and

WHEREAS, The Center for Literacy & 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, where our 15 regional literacy specialists serve over 64 local education agencies, 250 individual schools, 184 literacy coaches, and approximately 16,000 students; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 The Center for Literacy & 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 their education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the dedicated work of The Center for Literacy & Learning and does hereby extend gratitude for its work in improving reading proficiency in all of Louisiana's students; and does hereby designate Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 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 & Learning.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE