SLS 23RS-1082 **ORIGINAL**

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

COMMENDATIONS. Recognizes and commends the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and volunteers.

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and
3	volunteers.
4	WHEREAS, the people of Louisiana pride themselves on giving back to the
5	community and contributing to the improvement of the quality of life of all citizens; and
6	WHEREAS, the mission of CASA is to ensure a safe, permanent home for all
7	children with quality advocacy from a CASA volunteer; and
8	WHEREAS, the CASA programs in Louisiana, in association with the National
9	CASA Association, speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children; and
10	WHEREAS, CASA volunteers are trained community members appointed by a judge
11	to represent the best interests of those children; and
12	WHEREAS, there are seventeen CASA programs serving sixty-one parishes across
13	the state with donated service hours by CASA volunteers valued at \$1.4 million; and
14	WHEREAS, there were 51,639 reports of child abuse or neglect in Louisiana in
15	2022; and
16	WHEREAS, approximately 6,272 of Louisiana's children were served by
17	approximately 1,500 CASA volunteers who provided more than 50,000 hours of volunteer
18	service to Louisiana's foster children; and

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1	WHEREAS, David Clark, a CASA volunteer with CASA of St. Landry-Evangeline
2	has been named CASA Advocate of the Year in recognition of his exemplary service; and
3	WHEREAS, Louisiana's CASA programs and all CASA volunteers merit a special
4	measure of commendation for the outstanding work that they do on behalf of the abused and
5	neglected children of Louisiana.
6	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
7	does hereby commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs,
8	staff, and board members across the state, and David Clark as well as all the CASA
9	volunteers who give tirelessly of their time and energy to serve as powerful voices for
10	children.
11	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
12	Benjamin Huxen, chair of the board of directors of the Louisiana CASA Association.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Celeste D. Ellis.

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SR 55 Original

Boudreaux

Commends the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and volunteers.