

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 23

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, April 2, 2024, as Big Brothers Big Sisters Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, one-in-three kids grow up without a sustained, adult mentor in their life; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is the largest and most experienced youth mentoring organization in the United States, with the mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana are unlocking the potential of the children who are the future of our state; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters creates and supports relationships between young people, ages six to young adulthood - known as "Littles" - and caring volunteer mentors - known as "Bigs"; and

WHEREAS, by partnering with parents and guardians, volunteers, and others in the community, Big Brothers Big Sisters holds themselves accountable for each child in their programs achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence, better relationships, and educational success, as well as avoiding risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, 600 youth were served across Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Natchitoches, St. Landry, St. Martin, Vermilion, and Vernon Parishes; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, 98% of "Littles" enrolled in Big Brothers Big Sisters programs in these communities graduated high school, 96% of "Littles" avoided incarceration or arrest, and 100% of "Littles" participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana programs enrolled in college, enlisted in the military, or entered the workforce; and

WHEREAS, these results demonstrate the hard work and dedication of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana to ignite potential in Louisiana's youth.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, April 2, 2024, as Big Brothers Big Sisters Day at the Louisiana State Capitol in recognition of its exceptional dedication to creating positive mentoring relationships that empower youth, enhance communities, and inspire generations to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE