

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 72

BY REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and volunteers on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of CASA.

WHEREAS, the people of Louisiana pride themselves on giving back to the community and contributing to the improvement of the quality of life of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the mission of CASA is to ensure a safe, permanent home for all children with quality advocacy from a CASA volunteer; and

WHEREAS, CASA programs in Louisiana, in association with the National CASA Association, speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children; and

WHEREAS, CASA volunteers are trained community members appointed by a judge to represent the best interest of abused and neglected children; and

WHEREAS, there are eighteen CASA programs serving all sixty-four parishes across the state, with donated service hours by CASA volunteers valued at \$1.4 million; and

WHEREAS, there were 51,639 reports of child abuse or neglect in Louisiana in 2022; approximately 6,272 of Louisiana 's children were unable to live safely with their families and had been placed in foster homes and institutions; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, approximately 3,949 Louisiana children were served by approximately 1,404 CASA volunteers who provided more than 38,309 hours of volunteer service to Louisiana's foster children; and

WHEREAS, April 4, 2024, is the Louisiana CASA Association's 30th anniversary; Louisiana's CASA programs and all CASA volunteers merit a special measure of commendation for the outstanding work that they do on behalf of the abused and neglected children of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Louisiana Court Appoint Special Advocate programs, staff, and board members across the state and does hereby recognize CASA volunteers, who tirelessly give their time and energy to serve as powerful voices for those children who need it most.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES