

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY REPRESENTATIVES HENRY AND ROMERO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, April 30, 2024, as Parks and Recreation Day at the state capitol and to designate the month of July as Parks and Recreation Month in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, "Where Community Grows" is the theme given to Parks and Recreation Month in Louisiana by the Louisiana Recreation and Parks Association; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation are essential to local communities for health and wellness, childhood development, driving economic opportunities, providing space for people to connect and socialize, providing adaptable infrastructure for resiliency in the face of natural disasters and climate change; and

WHEREAS, local parks departments across the state provide families with space to gather and make memories, introduce children to different sports and to nature, and create other wholesome recreational activities outside of school hours; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation increase a community's economic prosperity through improving property values, expanding local tax bases, increasing tourism, attracting and retaining businesses, and reducing crime; and

WHEREAS, local parks are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our communities through conservation of wildlife habitats and nature and can provide green infrastructure to mitigate the effects of localized flooding in communities; and

WHEREAS, parks across the state provide Louisiana residents with a place to enjoy the outdoors, exercise, and get fresh air; and

WHEREAS, local parks and recreation departments from all across Louisiana along with the Louisiana Recreation and Parks Association will gather at the state capitol on April 30, 2024, to promote the vital assets they offer to their communities; and

WHEREAS, two park systems in Louisiana are part of the less than two percent of park systems across the country that are accredited through the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA): the New Orleans Recreation Development Commission, and the capitol region's very own BREC, which won the 2022 NRPA National Gold Medal Award.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the great societal value of local parks and recreation facilities and programs and their importance in communities across the United States; does hereby recognize and honor the vital contributions of employees and volunteers in parks and recreation facilities and programs; and does hereby designate Tuesday, April 30, 2024, as Parks and Recreation Day at the state capitol, and the month of July 2024 as Parks and Recreation Month in Louisiana.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE