

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 62

BY SENATOR CATHEY

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 14, 2024, as Future Farmers of America (FFA) Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to commend the officers of the Louisiana FFA Association.

WHEREAS, in 1917, Congress passed the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act to appropriate federal dollars to states for the purpose of finding teachers, supervisors, and directors of agricultural subjects as well as trade, home economics, and industrial subjects in high schools across the United States and has since funded programs created pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1920s, student interest generated by the addition of these classes prompted the first state organization of future farmers, and in 1928, thirty-three students from eighteen states convened to form Future Farmers of America (FFA), known since 1988 as the National FFA Organization; and

WHEREAS, the goal of FFA, as conceptualized in its mission statement, is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education; and

WHEREAS, the FFA motto, "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve", provides members words to live by as they experience the opportunities of the organization; and

WHEREAS, the national FFA organization consists of more than eight hundred fifty thousand members in over eight thousand chapters in all fifty states, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana membership of the FFA organization continues to be strongly represented by agricultural students in two hundred eleven chapters in fifty-three parishes throughout the state, with over twelve thousand members; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Louisiana Senate recognize the importance of agriculture to the economy of this state, as well as the importance of the education and training of students received through agricultural education programs that develop competent and assertive agricultural leadership; and

WHEREAS, the role that FFA and the training and education afforded by funding through the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) play in maintaining Louisiana's agricultural sector as an essential economic driver in the state are recognized and supported by the members of the Louisiana Senate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 14, 2024, as FFA Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana also recognizes and commends the 2023-2024 state FFA officers as follows: Camille Sonnier, president; Ellie Thames, vice president; Alyssa VanBlaricum, vice president; Ryleigh Shuff, vice president; Alaina Lyons, vice president; Curstyn Oncale, secretary; Cayde Gordon, treasurer; Emilee Bullock, reporter; Alexander Whalley, sentinel; and Jillian Lantz, parliamentarian.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Camille Sonnier, president of the Louisiana FFA Association.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE