

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 232

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 15, 2024, as Homeschool Day at the state capitol

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Wednesday, May 15, 2024, as Homeschool Day at the state capitol.

3 WHEREAS, it is the fundamental, unalienable right of parents to direct the
4 upbringing, care, and education of their children; and

5 WHEREAS, every individual and each family has the unalienable right to act and
6 order their lives according to their conscience; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States recognizes it is a legal and philosophical right of
8 parents to home educate their children; and

9 WHEREAS, in essence, homeschooling is private, parent-led, home-based education
10 and is an age-old educational practice that a decade ago appeared to be cutting-edge and
11 alternative but is now bordering on mainstream in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, there are about 3.1 million home-educated students in the United States,
13 and the homeschool population continues to grow; according to a recent *Washington Post*
14 analysis, the number of homeschooling students from 2017 to 2023 has risen by 51%,
15 doubling original numbers; and

16 WHEREAS, according to the Louisiana Department of Education, there are almost
17 45,000 K-12 homeschool students in Louisiana for the 2023-2024 academic year, saving
18 Louisiana taxpayers at least \$689 million; and

19 WHEREAS, most parents and youth decide to homeschool for more than one reason;
20 and

1 WHEREAS, the most common reasons given for choosing home-based education
2 include the desire to customize or individualize the curriculum and learning environment for
3 each child; to enhance family relationships between children and parents and among
4 siblings; to teach and impart a particular set of values, beliefs, and worldviews to children
5 and youth, among other reasons; and

6 WHEREAS, a 2024 data analysis revealed that Louisiana homeschool students are
7 scoring at the 79th to 85th percentile across the subjects of reading, language, math, science,
8 and social studies on standardized academic achievement tests, which is twenty-nine to
9 thirty-five percentile points above the U.S. public school average; and

10 WHEREAS, according to studies, homeschool students are doing well, typically
11 above average, on measures of social, emotional, and psychological development and are
12 regularly engaged in multiple social and educational activities outside their homes and with
13 people other than their nuclear-family members; and

14 WHEREAS, the research base of adults who were homeschooled is growing, and
15 thus far research shows homeschool graduates are quite successful in adulthood and go on
16 to succeed at college at an equal or higher rate than the general population, participate in
17 local community service more frequently than the general population, and vote and attend
18 public meetings more frequently than the general population, among other indices.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, May 15, 2024, as Homeschool
21 Day at the state capitol; does hereby extend sincere gratitude to the parents who choose to
22 homeschool for their pedagogical efforts on behalf of their children; and does hereby salute
23 the homeschooled children whose academic and personal excellence are of immense benefit
24 to the great state of Louisiana.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 232 Original

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