

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 144

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To recognize and honor Queen Sylvia of Buganda for her outstanding contributions to education, healthcare, cultural preservation, and the empowerment of women and children in Uganda and across Africa.

WHEREAS, Sylvia Nagginda has had a significant impact on her community in Buganda, the largest kingdom in Uganda, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Sylvia Nagginda was born in England in 1962, to John Mulumba Luswata of Nkumba, Entebbe, and Rebecca Nakintu Musoke, and returned to Uganda shortly thereafter to be raised by her grandparents of the Omusu Clan; and

WHEREAS, Sylvia Nagginda received her early education at Lake Victoria Primary School in Entebbe, Gayaza Junior School, and Wanyange Girls School, before continuing her studies in the United States, where she earned an associate degree with honors from LaGuardia Community College of the City University of New York, a Bachelor of Arts degree from New York University, and a Master of Arts degree with Distinction in Mass Communication from the New York Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS, she has an impressive work history, having served as a Public Information Officer and Research Consultant at the United Nations headquarters in New York, a proposal writer with Maximus Inc., and as an independent consultant in public relations and business development, applying her skills in public information, economic research, healthcare, human services, and international non-profit activities; and

WHEREAS, after living in the United States for 18 years, Sylvia Nagginda returned to Uganda, and in 1998, she became romantically involved with her long-time acquaintance Ronald Muwenda Mutebi II of Buganda, leading to their marriage on August 27, 1999, at St. Paul's Cathedral on Namirembe Hill, and becoming the first queen of Buganda in fifty years; and

WHEREAS, Her Royal Highness Sylvia Nagginda Luswata is one of the founders of the African Queens and Women Cultural Leaders Network, focusing on improving the lives of women and children in Africa through collaboration with organizations such as the African Union, the United Nations, and African governments; and

WHEREAS, the Nnabagereka supports the Kabaka's Education Fund, advocating for high-quality education accessible to all children, especially the least advantaged, and places special emphasis on the education of girls, as demonstrated by her role as a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Population Fund and her involvement with the Forum for African Women Educationalists; and

WHEREAS, as Queen, Sylvia Nagginda has worked tirelessly to raise awareness about the importance of educating girls, promoting abstinence from premarital sex to prevent HIV/AIDS, and reducing the stigma associated with that disease, and she is the patron of various organizations and heads the Nnabagereka Development Trust Foundation; and

WHEREAS, she has spearheaded immunization campaigns against measles, polio, tetanus, and other diseases, established the Kampala Ballet and Modern Dance School, and through her Nnabagereka Foundation's Ekisakaate summer camp, has mentored over 30,000 Ugandan youth since 2008, emphasizing Buganda culture and teaching valuable life skills; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2023, Queen Sylvia launched her autobiography, "*The Nnabagereka Queen Sylvia Nagginda Luswata*", in Uganda's capital city Kampala, providing a glimpse into her life, duties, and passions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize and honor Queen Sylvia of Buganda for her outstanding contributions to education, healthcare, cultural preservation and the empowerment of women and children in Uganda and across Africa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Her Royal Highness Sylvia Nagginda Luswata, Queen of Buganda.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE