

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS JOHNSON

A RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, April 22, 2025, as Black Farmers and Growers Day at the state capitol and commends black farmers and growers of Louisiana for their outstanding efforts in fostering a more inclusive and sustainable agricultural sector in the state.

WHEREAS, the National Black Growers Council (NBGC) is a coalition of multigenerational producers dedicated to advancing the interests of black farmers at the local, state, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, the NBGC is a champion in agriculture both within the United States and internationally with a mission to improve efficiency, productivity, and sustainability of black row crop farmers; and

WHEREAS, black farmers play a vital role in Louisiana's agricultural landscape, contributing significantly to the state's economy and cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2022 Census of Agriculture by the United States Department of Agriculture, Louisiana has roughly three thousand black or African American producers managing over two hundred twenty-six thousand acres of farmland; and

WHEREAS, these producers are involved in a diverse range of agricultural activities, including the cultivation of crops such as sugarcane, soybeans, and corn, as well as livestock farming that support local economies and preserve farming traditions passed down through generations; and

WHEREAS, despite their contributions, black farmers in Louisiana face challenges such as limited access to capital, land, and technical assistance; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the NBGC work to address these issues by advocating for equitable policies, providing resources, and promoting sustainable farming practices.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, April 22, 2025, as Black Farmers and Growers Day at the state capitol and does hereby commend all the black farmers and growers of this state for their outstanding efforts in fostering a more inclusive and sustainable agricultural sector in the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana-based board member of the National Black Growers Council, Mr. Willis Nelson.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES