

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 42

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

A RESOLUTION

To designate Wednesday, April 23, 2025, as Big Brothers Big Sisters Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, one out of every three children grows up without a sustained, adult mentor in their life; Big Brothers Big Sisters programs in Louisiana are working to close this gap through their mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana is in its forty-sixth year of service, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana is currently celebrating its fortieth anniversary, and in the fall of 2024, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater New Orleans announced its long-awaited relaunch; and

WHEREAS, these organizations are working tirelessly to unlock the potential of Louisiana's children by creating and supporting relationships between young people ages six to young adulthood, who are known as "Littles", and caring volunteer mentors, who are known as "Bigs"; and

WHEREAS, by partnering with parents, guardians, and volunteers, Big Brothers Big Sisters organizations hold themselves accountable for each child in their programs achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence, better relationships, and educational success, as well as avoiding risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the mentorship connections cultivated by Big Brothers Big Sisters impact a young person's present experience and shape their future, contributing to reduced poverty, greater economic stability, and stronger communities; and

WHEREAS, a recently-released study demonstrated that Littles served by Big Brothers Big Sisters programs experience significant, positive long-term outcomes from mentorship, including a 20% higher likelihood of attending college and a 15% increase in

income between the ages of twenty and twenty-five compared to their non-mentored peers; they also experience improved behaviors and stronger social bonds; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater New Orleans are most deserving of the highest recognition for their unwavering commitment and hard work demonstrated in their mission to ignite the potential of Louisiana's youth.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, April 23, 2025, as Big Brothers Big Sisters Day at the state capitol and does hereby encourage all Louisianians to support initiatives and organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters, which serve the state's youth and help build a strong foundation for the state's future.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES