

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 283

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCKIN

A RESOLUTION

To designate June 2-6, 2025, as CPR and AED Awareness Week in Louisiana and to commend Caroline Ross, Layton Fontenot, and Hayes Kirkpatrick for their heroic acts and commitment to the well-being of others.

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of all individuals in and around aquatic and recreational facilities are of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2025, a medical emergency occurred on the tennis courts at Bocage Racquet Club in Baton Rouge, adjacent to a swimming pool guarded by lifeguards; and

WHEREAS, Caroline Ross, a bystander present on the tennis courts, immediately recognized the emergency, summoned assistance, and retrieved the Automated External Defibrillator (AED), initiating the chain of survival; and

WHEREAS, Layton Fontenot and Hayes Kirkpatrick, both certified American Red Cross lifeguards employed by SELA Aquatics, promptly responded to the scene and provided multiple-rescuer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), including chest compression, rescue ventilation, and AED defibrillation; and

WHEREAS, the actions of Caroline Ross, Layton Fontenot, and Hayes Kirkpatrick demonstrate exemplary courage, quick thinking, and teamwork under pressure, reflecting the highest standards of emergency response and public service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fontenot is a recent graduate Catholic High School in Baton Rouge, preparing to attend Louisiana State University in the fall of 2025, and Mr. Kirkpatrick is a rising sophomore at Catholic High School; and

WHEREAS, this incident took place on Mr. Kirkpatrick's first day on the job, and it stands as a testament to the critical importance of CPR and AED training, and the readiness of even our youngest citizens to serve as lifesavers in moments of crisis; and

WHEREAS, summer brings the joy of family vacations, outdoor adventures, and recreational activities, but it also means children are often away from teachers, coaches, and

caregivers trained in CPR, making it vital for parents and guardians to be prepared to respond in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, June 1-7, 2025, is designated by the American Heart Association as National CPR and AED Awareness Week, and the organization calls on families to "Be Ready" and ensure that this summer is not only fun but safe by learning CPR and becoming a part of the Nation of Lifesavers; and

WHEREAS, Hands-Only CPR can save the life of a teen or adult, while CPR with breaths is recommended for infants and children, making it crucial that all individuals understand the appropriate method of care for all age groups; and

WHEREAS, CPR saves lives, and everyone has the power to be a vital link in the chain of survival by learning this life-saving skill; and

WHEREAS, an automated external defibrillator, or AED, is an easy-to-use medical device that can restore a normal heart rhythm to someone who has gone into cardiac arrest; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has supported the inclusion of AEDs in schools and athletic facilities across the state and has provided resources for expanding CPR and AED training; and

WHEREAS, the American Heart Association invites everyone to join the Nation of Lifesavers by visiting heart.org/nation, learning CPR, and supporting public policies to increase survival from cardiac arrest.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana House of Representatives does hereby proclaim June 2-6, 2025, as CPR and AED Awareness Week in Louisiana; does hereby commend Caroline Ross, Layton Fontenot, and Hayes Kirkpatrick for their heroic and life-saving acts and for their commitment to the health, safety, and well-being of others; and does hereby encourage all residents to learn CPR, become familiar with AED use, and take an active role in protecting their families and our communities.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES