

1 and her court made several appearances on television and radio stations throughout the state
2 to publicize the festival; and

3 WHEREAS, during his first term in office, Governor Edwin Edwards proclaimed
4 April as Strawberry Festival Month; and

5 WHEREAS, from the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival's humble beginning, it has
6 evolved into a Louisiana celebration second only to Mardi Gras in its magnitude; and

7 WHEREAS, today, the annual Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival is organized by the
8 Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Board, Inc., which is comprised of a chairperson,
9 chairperson-elect, treasurer, secretary, parliamentarian, and other essential positions; and

10 WHEREAS, decisions of the festival board are the responsibility of the sixteen
11 voting board members who represent various organizations, including the Ponchatoula
12 Chamber of Commerce, the Ponchatoula Jaycees, the Ponchatoula Rotary Club, the
13 Ponchatoula Kiwanis, the Knights of Columbus, Ponchatoula Youth Baseball, the Champ
14 Cooper School, and the Ponchatoula Lions Club; and

15 WHEREAS, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Board is a proud member of the
16 Louisiana Association of Fairs and Festivals; and

17 WHEREAS, today, the official Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival grounds include
18 Memorial Park and the first two blocks of North Sixth Street; and

19 WHEREAS, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival continually draws a huge crowd
20 that strolls through America's Antique City and watches one of the biggest parades in South
21 Louisiana; and

22 WHEREAS, for more than thirty years, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival has
23 provided a fundraising venue as a fundraiser for nonprofit and charitable organizations, and
24 the festival prides itself as being one of the only festivals in which nonprofit organizations
25 are the only vendors on the official festival grounds; and

26 WHEREAS, the 2013 Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival is being held from April 12
27 through April 14, 2013, in Ponchatoula, Louisiana; and

28 WHEREAS, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival and its organizers and volunteers
29 merit a sincere measure of commendation for their contributions to the culture and economy
30 of the state of Louisiana.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
2 recognize Tuesday, April 9, 2013, as Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Day and does hereby
3 celebrate the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival as an integral part of the culture and history
4 of the city of Ponchatoula and the state of Louisiana.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
6 to the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Board, Inc.

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)]

Pugh

HCR No. 24

Recognizes Apr. 9, 2013, as Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Day.