BY SENATORS MORRELL, APPEL, CROWE, HEITMEIER, MURRAY AND PETERSON

A RESOLUTION

To proclaim Tuesday, May 13, 2014, as New Orleans Day and to observe this special day by "Celebrating the Crescent City".

WHEREAS, Louisiana is both nationally and internationally recognized as perhaps the most unique state in the nation due to its variety of awe-inspiring natural and cultural attractions and significant historical sites, and New Orleans plays a vital role in the authenticity that Louisiana enjoys; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1718, New Orleans integrates two hundred ninety-six years of vibrant history into its identity, and the Crescent City is worthy of its distinction as a gateway to one of America's most unusual states, a state that holds a diverse cultural heritage and singular historical legacy; and

WHEREAS, the city of New Orleans ranks fifth among popular travel destinations in the USA and draws visitors from every corner of the world; and

WHEREAS, its international prominence and growth in global trade markets make New Orleans one of America's largest port facilities and fastest growing aviation hubs; and

WHEREAS, Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport has recently been named the fastest expanding aviation complex in the nation and has been recognized as an essential element in the city's economy; and

WHEREAS, while extolling the city's extraordinary history, New Orleans is also known as a modern urban center and is home to dynamic and diverse economic interests, such as aerospace industries, petroleum interests, shipbuilding, manufacturing, music and film production, telecommunications, the visual and performing arts, financial institutions, and medical care and scientific research facilities; and

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WHEREAS, more than nine million travelers visit the city annually, contributing to its economic prosperity by frequenting renowned restaurants, elegant hotels, fashionable boutiques, and a wealth of entertainment locales; and

WHEREAS, the city's festival calendar attracts vast numbers of tourists every month to include one-half million for the Jazz and Heritage Festival, over one-half million for the French Quarter Festival, and one million for Mardi Gras' carnival season; and

WHEREAS, New Orleans offers a bevy of cultural treasures for every taste, such as the National D-Day Museum, the New Orleans Museum of Art, the Contemporary Arts Center, the Audubon Nature Institute, and the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, immersed within the city are all manner of artistic venues, that comprise countless French Quarter and Warehouse District art galleries that showcase the works of national and local artists in diverse palettes, plays and Broadway musicals that grace the stage of the recently remodeled Saenger Theater, and renowned musicians and talented entertainers whose performances are readily available everywhere, both in club scenes and on street corners; and

WHEREAS, it is this rich assemblage of individuals from many distinct backgrounds that contributes to the wonderful "gumbo" of sights, sounds, delightful tastes, and heavenly smells that make New Orleans the rarity that it is today.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby proclaim Tuesday, May 13, 2014, as New Orleans Day and does hereby declare that this special day shall be observed as "Celebrating the Crescent City" in recognition of the unique history and culture that is only New Orleans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Bobby Jindal, governor of the state of Louisiana, and the Honorable Mitchell J. Landrieu, mayor of New Orleans.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE