

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 182

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARNOLD

A RESOLUTION

To proclaim the first week in November as Krewe de Quit Week in an effort to promote smoking cessation in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the most preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the United States, yet over one quarter of adults in Louisiana smoke; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, an estimated seven thousand two hundred adults die annually of diseases caused by their own smoking, and approximately one thousand children and adults die each year as a result of exposure to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, the economic burden of smoking in the United States is immense, as the total economic costs related to smoking in this country exceed three hundred billion dollars annually, including one hundred seventy billion dollars spent annually on direct medical care for adults with smoking-related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, nearly seven in ten adult smokers would like to quit smoking, and over fifty-six percent of Louisiana smokers have made a quit attempt within the past year; and

WHEREAS, smokers desiring to quit should have access to approved therapies such as counseling, nicotine replacement therapy, and pharmaceutical interventions, as well as multiple channels for outreach and support; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana residents may be unaware of the smoking cessation treatments and services available to them to help them quit, or lack the support they need in order to successfully quit; and

WHEREAS, smoking cessation treatment options are available to eligible Louisiana residents through the Smoking Cessation Trust, which provides cessation medications, counseling, telephone quit-line support, and intensive cessation support services at no cost to participants; and

WHEREAS, Krewe de Quit is a Louisiana smoking cessation campaign that introduces smokers and their supporters to Louisiana's smoking cessation resources and gives healthcare providers valuable smoking cessation tools; and

WHEREAS, by joining the Krewe, Louisiana smokers can build support among family members and friends who can keep them inspired and motivated during their efforts to quit, as well as find tools to help them to plan their quitting and to register for the free services of the Smoking Cessation Trust; and

WHEREAS, by providing smokers with the support needed to help them quit, Krewe de Quit aims to reduce the rate of smoking among adults in Louisiana to twenty-one percent by 2017; and

WHEREAS, efforts to promote smoking cessation are vital to protecting public health and promoting wellness in our beloved state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby proclaim the first week in November as Krewe de Quit Week in an effort to promote smoking cessation in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby encourage Louisianians who have a desire to beat an addiction to cigarettes to visit www.SmokeFreeLA.org to learn how the trust can help them in their efforts to live smoke-free.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chairperson of the board and the executive director of the Smoking Cessation Trust.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES