

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 120

BY REPRESENTATIVE BERTHELOT

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 1 through 7, 2016, as "Arson Awareness Week" in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fire Administration, along with several partner agencies, has declared May 1 through 7, 2016, as National Arson Awareness Week and the theme for 2016 is "Prevent Wildfire Arson—Spread the Facts, Not the Fire"; and

WHEREAS, wildfire arson is the willful, malicious, intentional or reckless burning of property that takes place on underdeveloped wildland or uncultivated land comprised of forest, brush, or grassland; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Interior's Wildland Fire Management Information System, during the five-year period from 2010 to 2014, twenty-three percent of fires reported were a result of arson; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Forest Service, individual arson fires can cause damages to resources and communities totaling more than one hundred million dollars; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Fire Protection Association, from 2007 to 2011, twenty percent of reported brush, grass, or forest fires were intentionally set; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Association of State Foresters, more than seventy-two thousand U.S. communities are now at risk from wildfires within the wildland urban interface; and

WHEREAS, the week of May 1 through May 7, 2016, is designated Arson Awareness Week both nationally and in the state of Louisiana to focus attention on the prevention of wildfire arson, particularly in the wildland-urban interface.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 1 through 7, 2016, as Arson Awareness

Week in Louisiana and does hereby pay special tribute to all fire and law enforcement investigative agencies for their dedicated and tireless service to the citizens of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Chief H. "Butch" Browning and Deputy Chief Brant L. Thompson of the Louisiana office of the state fire marshal.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES