

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 28

BY REPRESENTATIVES JORDAN, STEVE CARTER, BACALA, BERTHELOT, CHAD BROWN, CARPENTER, DAVIS, EDMONDS, FOIL, HAVARD, HODGES, IVEY, JAMES, MACK, MARCELLE, POPE, PRICE, SCHEXNAYDER, SMITH, AND THIBAUT

A RESOLUTION

To commend ExxonMobil and recognize Monday, April 17, 2017, as ExxonMobil Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, for the past century ExxonMobil's Louisiana operations have greatly contributed to the economy of the state of Louisiana and to the prosperity of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana, which began on two hundred twenty-five acres of Baton Rouge farmland with some seven hundred workers, has grown into an ExxonMobil family of companies in Louisiana that, in addition to the Baton Rouge Refinery, now also includes world-class facilities such as the Baton Rouge Chemical Plant, the Baton Rouge Polyolefins Plant, the Baton Rouge Plastics Plant, the Port Allen Lubricants Plant, the ExxonMobil Production Company, XTO Energy Company, and the ExxonMobil Pipeline Company; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride and gratitude that the Louisiana House of Representatives commends ExxonMobil for the contributions its operations have made to the economy of the state of Louisiana and to the prosperity of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, as one of the top employers in the state of Louisiana, employing more than six thousand employees and contractors in the Baton Rouge area, ExxonMobil has workers in nearly every corner of Louisiana, from the Haynesville Shale to the Baton Rouge chemical plants to the deep water of the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Refinery is the largest manufacturing employer in Louisiana and the fourth largest refinery in the United States, and the Baton Rouge Chemical Plant is the second largest manufacturing employer in the state with ExxonMobil's Louisiana operations; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil's engineers, scientists, skilled workers, and support staff in Louisiana have played crucial roles in shaping the energy and petrochemical industry during the past century with revolutionary research innovations and technological breakthroughs, such as the world's first catalytic cracking technology and the development of alkylation processes for the production of high octane aviation fuel during World War II as well as the development of butyl rubber, which led to Baton Rouge's nickname as the "Cradle of Synthetic Rubber"; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil's Louisiana operations pay over one hundred million dollars in state and local taxes each year including over thirty-three million dollars in property taxes in East Baton Rouge Parish alone, and has paid more than one billion dollars in state and local taxes over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil and its thousands of employees and retirees take an active role in the betterment of the surrounding communities throughout the state of Louisiana by providing tens of thousands of volunteer hours annually to numerous nonprofit organizations as well as providing financial assistance through charitable contributions and matching grants of nearly five million dollars each year to hundreds of civic, community, and educational organizations; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil's recognition that the challenges of the 21st century, for the energy industry and our country, will rely on our children having a strong foundation of math and science education in our schools that is reflected in the commitment of a thirteen million dollar funding grant to the National Math & Science Initiative for Louisiana schools and its educational programs such as the Advanced Placement Training as well as support of numerous other educational programs such as the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy and the STEM Learning Network, Pathways to STEM Education in EBR Parish Schools; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil's facilities in Louisiana are dedicated to operating in an environmentally responsible manner and have been recognized for their efforts as a recipient of numerous awards for their environmental leadership; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil is committed to continuous improvement in the safety of its employees, contractors, and the community and its Louisiana facilities have been recognized by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for their voluntary protection programs and safety performance; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil's facilities in Louisiana represent substantial long-term investments and their operations retain existing jobs and attract new jobs, provide tax revenue, spur economic growth, and help meet the world's growing energy needs; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon businesses like ExxonMobil, which take on the world's toughest energy challenges.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend ExxonMobil on more than a century of partnership and progress with Louisiana and does hereby recognize Monday, April 17, 2017, as ExxonMobil Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the employees and retirees of ExxonMobil for their continuous pursuit of excellence in safety, corporate responsibility, environmental preservation, and contributions to local education and volunteer leadership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to ExxonMobil's Louisiana Operations.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES