

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 83

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates Tuesday, May 2, 2017, as School-Based Health Care Awareness Day in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Tuesday, May 2, 2017, as School-Based Health Care Awareness Day in
3 Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, school-based health care facilities are an important statewide resource
5 helping to address the health care needs of underserved and uninsured children, providing
6 needed preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services, including direct primary and mental
7 health care for acute and chronic illnesses, health education, case management assistance,
8 and immunizations; and

9 WHEREAS, these facilities provide vital counseling on threats to children's health
10 such as childhood obesity, asthma, smoking, substance abuse, and violence, as well as
11 behavioral problems ranging from mild to severe; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1990, as policymakers became concerned about the high morbidity
13 and mortality rates of adolescents, the office of public health in the Department of Health
14 and Hospitals was asked to determine the feasibility of opening school-based health care
15 facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1991, the Adolescent School Health Initiative was enacted and
17 school-based health care facilities came into existence around the state; and

18 WHEREAS, a school-based health care facility provides convenient access to
19 comprehensive, primary, and preventive physical and mental health services for public
20 school students at the school site; and

1 WHEREAS, as students spend a significant portion of their day on school grounds,
2 school-based health care facilities are accessible, convenient, encourage family and
3 community involvement, reduce student absenteeism, reduce parental leave from work for
4 doctor visits, and work with school personnel to meet the needs of the students and their
5 families; and

6 WHEREAS, school-based health care facilities complement school nurses and social
7 workers because generally the scope of practice of school nurses and social workers is more
8 limited than that of the school-based health care facility, which has a broad mandate; and

9 WHEREAS, the school-based health care facilities are able to provide
10 comprehensive health services to students, providing treatment for minor illness and injury,
11 comprehensive physicals as may be required for school-related activities, behavioral health
12 counseling, treatments for chronic diseases, required vaccines, and other beneficial services
13 to enhance the learning environment of a school; and

14 WHEREAS, at this time, sixty-two school-based health care facilities are operated
15 in twenty-seven parishes throughout the state.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, May 2, 2017, as School-Based
18 Health Care Awareness Day in Louisiana.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
20 to the president of the Louisiana School-Based Health Alliance board.

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)]

HR 83 Original

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