

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

BY SENATOR COLOMB AND REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the efforts of The Links, Incorporated and to designate Monday, May 8, 2017, as Louisiana Links Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated, is an international organization of women of color dedicated to improving the quality of life for humankind; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide organization consists of nearly fourteen thousand members in two hundred eighty-three chapters in forty-one states, the District of Colombia, and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas; and

WHEREAS, there are eight Links chapters in the state of Louisiana, namely the Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Crescent City, LaCapitale, Monroe-Grambling, New Orleans, Pontchartrain, and Shreveport chapters; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated, was founded in 1946 by Margaret Hawkins and Sarah Scott in hopes of promoting civic, educational, and cultural concerns through the creation of their service organization; and

WHEREAS, the members of The Links, Incorporated, are influential decision makers and opinion leaders; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated, has attracted many distinguished women who are individual achievers and who have made a difference in their communities and in the world; and

WHEREAS, the members of The Links, Incorporated, are business and civic leaders, role models, mentors, activists, and volunteers who work towards a common vision by engaging like-minded organizations and individuals as partners; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding programming of The Links, Incorporated, has five facets, which are National Trends and Services, the Arts, Services to Youth, International

Trends and Services, and Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, the programs are implemented through strategies such as public information and education, economic development, and public policy campaigns; and

WHEREAS, the mission of The Links, Incorporated, has been to discern a need and to fulfill it, which The Links has done by donating money and time to charitable efforts, including one million dollars to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and two million dollars to the United Negro College Fund; and

WHEREAS, its members contribute more than five hundred thousand documented hours of community service annually, strengthening their communities and enhancing the nation; and

WHEREAS, Links Day at the capitol is a project of the southern area of The Links, Incorporated, which includes chapters in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the first Louisiana Links Day at the state capitol occurred on May 19, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the members of Louisiana Links came to the legislature in 2005 to inform their legislators that they supported legislation and the development of policies in line with Healthy People 2010; and

WHEREAS, the members of Louisiana Links came to the legislature in 2006 to inform their legislators that they supported legislation and the development of policies that provided funding and infrastructure necessary to improve healthcare in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the members of Louisiana Links came to the legislature in 2007 to inform their legislators that they supported legislation and the development of policies that closed the gap in poverty and education, that provided adequate and affordable healthcare to all citizens, that brought Louisiana people home, that revitalized New Orleans public schools, and that guaranteed displaced Louisiana voters their constitutional right to vote; and

WHEREAS, the members of Louisiana Links came to the legislature in 2008 to inform their legislators that they supported legislation and the development of policies aimed at reducing the obesity rate for children in Louisiana and other healthcare and education initiatives aimed at creating a better quality of life in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the members of Louisiana Links came to the legislature in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012, to advocate for healthcare and education policies that would continue to improve the lives of all Louisiana citizens; and

WHEREAS, the members of Louisiana Links came to the legislature in 2013 to advocate for laws and policies in healthcare, education, voting rights, gun control, and equal pay for women; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, 2015, and 2016, the members of Louisiana Links voiced their concern and continued support of programs seeking to enrich, sustain, and ensure the cultural and economic survival of African Americans and persons of African ancestry; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated, merits a special measure of commendation as they visit the Louisiana State Capitol on Monday, May 8, 2017, for Louisiana Links Day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the efforts of The Links, Incorporated, and does hereby designate Monday, May 8, 2017, as Louisiana Links Day at the state capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the southern area director of The Links, Incorporated.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES