

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITE

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates April 22, 2019, as Easterseals Day in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Monday, April 22, 2019, as Easterseals Day in Louisiana.

3 WHEREAS, on April 22, 1919, Easterseals was formed to highlight and address the
4 healthcare and service needs of children with disabilities; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1945, in order to meet the needs of returning World War II veterans
6 and other adults with disabilities, Easterseals expanded its child-focused mission by opening
7 its programs and services to include adults; and

8 WHEREAS, since its inception, Easterseals has strongly advocated for services and
9 supports for individuals with disabilities, a fact evident in its authoring of a 1931 Bill of
10 Rights for children with disabilities that helped pave the way for government-funded
11 disability services and increased public awareness of the needs of children with disabilities;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Easterseals has grown from its humble beginnings in Elyria, Ohio, to
14 become an influential organization that oversees a network of leading nonprofit
15 organizations in states across the country; and

16 WHEREAS, these organizations deliver high-quality services and supports to
17 children and adults with disabilities, veterans, older adults, caregivers, and their families to
18 help the disabled achieve milestones, live independently, and fully participate in the life of
19 their communities; and

1 WHEREAS, Easterseals Louisiana was formed in 1951 to serve the people of
2 Louisiana, and it currently has nearly two hundred employees in offices across the state who
3 support more than 10,000 individuals with disabilities annually; and

4 WHEREAS, the programs instituted by Easterseals Louisiana include support
5 coordination for home and community based waiver services, EarlySteps System Point of
6 Entry, Transitional Housing, mental health rehabilitation, the Program for the Evaluation and
7 Enrichment of Relational Skills, or PEERS, and Campership, which provides tuition
8 assistance to disabled children and young adults to help them attend summer camp; and

9 WHEREAS, the mission of Easterseals is best summarized in the words of its
10 founder Edgar Allen, a parent, businessman, and Rotarian, who once said that "Your life and
11 mine shall be valued not by what we take, but by what we give"; and

12 WHEREAS, on April 22, 2019, Easterseals will celebrate its one hundredth
13 anniversary.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
15 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Monday, April 22, 2019, as Easterseals Day
16 in Louisiana and does hereby commend Easterseals for its impact on the lives of millions of
17 Americans and for its commitment to expanding possibilities for children and adults with
18 disabilities, veterans, seniors, and others.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
20 to Tracy Garner, President/CEO of Easterseals Louisiana.

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 54 Original

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