

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 193

BY SENATOR BARROW

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. To recognize Monday, June 7, 2021, as Louisiana Childhood Obesity Awareness Day and commend efforts to prevent and combat childhood obesity in Louisiana.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize Monday, June 7, 2021, as Louisiana Childhood Obesity Awareness Day and  
3 commend efforts to prevent and combat childhood obesity in Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines  
5 obesity as a Body Mass Index at or above the ninety-fifth percentile for children and teens  
6 of the same age and sex; and

7 WHEREAS, twenty percent of Louisiana children between ten and seventeen years  
8 old have obesity, ranking Louisiana sixth highest in childhood obesity among the states and  
9 the District of Columbia; and

10 WHEREAS, children affected by obesity are seventy percent more likely to continue  
11 being affected by obesity as adults; and

12 WHEREAS, children with obesity are more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes,  
13 hypertension, high cholesterol, asthma, and fatty liver disease and to experience anxiety,  
14 depression, bullying, low self-esteem, and weight stigma during childhood which extracts  
15 high physical and monetary tolls among Louisiana residents and American society; and

16 WHEREAS, genetics, poor nutrition, food insecurity, community design and safety,  
17 adverse childhood events, poor sleep, and low levels of physical activity are major  
18 contributors to childhood obesity; and

1           WHEREAS, Louisiana pediatricians and research scientists recognize the health  
2           threats inherent in obesity and work collaboratively to improve the health and futures of  
3           Louisiana's children; and

4           WHEREAS, the greater understanding of the complexities of obesity yielded by  
5           those collaborations have identified the roles that being overweight or having obesity play  
6           in diabetes and other chronic diseases that afflict a disproportionate share of Louisiana  
7           children; and

8           WHEREAS, this improved understanding of obesity and its negative impact on a  
9           growing number of Louisiana's children is informing statewide outreach initiatives to combat  
10          Louisiana's childhood obesity epidemic; and

11          WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature recognizes that Louisiana's children are our  
12          state's most valuable resource; and

13          WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature recognizes the dedicated physicians and  
14          research scientists who are working to curtail and eliminate childhood obesity in Louisiana.

15          THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
16          does hereby designate Monday, June 7, 2021, as Louisiana Childhood Obesity Awareness  
17          Day.

18          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Louisiana Legislature does  
19          hereby commend the professionals providing health care to children who are overweight or  
20          have obesity, conducting obesity research, and implementing important outreach programs  
21          across Louisiana aimed at preventing and reducing obesity among Louisiana's children.

22          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
23          Louisiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Pennington Biomedical  
24          Research Center.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

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