

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 120

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes June 7, 2021, as Louisiana Childhood Obesity Awareness Day at the state capitol and commends medical professionals for their efforts to prevent and combat childhood obesity in Louisiana

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize Monday, June 7, 2021, as Louisiana Childhood Obesity Awareness Day at the state capitol and to commend medical professionals for their efforts to prevent and combat childhood obesity in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines obesity as a body mass index, or BMI, at or above the 95th percentile for children and teens of the same age and sex; and

WHEREAS, more than twenty percent of Louisiana children between ten and seventeen years old suffer with obesity, thus making Louisiana the sixth highest ranking state in the country in terms of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, children who are obese are seventy percent more likely to be obese as adults; and

WHEREAS, children with obesity are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, asthma, and fatty liver disease and are more prone to experience anxiety, depression, bullying, low self-esteem, and weight stigma during childhood, all of which extracts high physical and monetary tolls among Louisianians and Americans; and

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

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

4 WHEREAS, these collaborations have given participants a greater understanding of
5 the complexities of obesity, and have enabled them to identify the connection between
6 obesity and diabetes and other chronic diseases that afflict a disproportionate share of
7 children in Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, an 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 Legislature of Louisiana recognizes that Louisiana's children are the
12 state's most valuable resource; and

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

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
17 recognize Monday, June 7, 2021, as Louisiana Childhood Obesity Awareness Day at the
18 state capitol, and hereby commends the cadre of medical professionals who provide
19 healthcare, conduct research, and implement important outreach programs across Louisiana
20 to prevent and reduce obesity among children in the state.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the
22 executive director of the Louisiana chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and to
23 the executive director of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

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)]

HCR 120 Original

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