

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 215

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the equine industry in St. Landry Parish for its cultural and economic impact to the state of Louisiana.

A RESOLUTION

To commend the equine industry in St. Landry Parish for its cultural and economic impact to the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the equine industry has long served an integral and irreplaceable part of the Louisiana economy; and

WHEREAS, a recent report indicates that the horse racing industry accounts for over twelve thousand direct jobs and over three hundred million dollars in annual earnings in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is among the nation's leaders in horse breeding, and home to many farms and training facilities with many of them located in St. Landry Parish; and

WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish is the home to numerous equine sales that attracts a national and international clientele; and

WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish has long been recognized as a hub of activity for the horse racing industry in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, as the home of one of only four live racing facilities in Louisiana, Evangeline Downs in Opelousas hosts both thoroughbred and quarter horse meets throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, Evangeline Downs has the distinction of being the only "racino" in the

1 nation built from the ground up; and

2 WHEREAS, St. Landry Parish is home of one of the nation's few farms that serves  
3 as a home for retired race horses who have found new life in guiding kids, families, and  
4 corporate teams to better leadership in equine assisted learning; and

5 WHEREAS, the equine tradition in St. Landry Parish does not end with the racing  
6 industry; and

7 WHEREAS, the famous "Step and Strut" trail ride originated in St. Landry Parish;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Opelousas native Mia Manzanares is a two-time women's all-around  
10 College National Finals Rodeo champion and member of the 2018 national championship  
11 from McNeese State University; and

12 WHEREAS, Professional Rodeo Hall of Fame member Steve Duhon also hails from  
13 Opelousas; and

14 WHEREAS, Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau, famously the sight of  
15 the only Vatican-recognized miracle in the United States of America, is home to a  
16 nationally-recognized equestrian center for its students who train in three disciplines,  
17 including hunter/jumper, dressage, and western; and

18 WHEREAS, rodeos are held throughout the year in towns all over St. Landry Parish;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the proposed multipurpose event center near Evangeline Downs, as part  
21 of the Gateway to Acadiana Master Plan, will serve as an ideal location for the professional  
22 rodeo circuit.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
24 does hereby commend the equine industry in St. Landry Parish for its cultural and economic  
25 impact to the state of Louisiana.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does  
27 hereby recognize St. Landry Parish as state and national leader in the equine industry.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
29 chief executive officer of St. Landry Economic Development, the president of St. Landry  
30 Parish, and all members of the St. Landry Parish Council.

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

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	DIGEST	
SR 215 Original	2021 Regular Session	Boudreaux

Commends the equine industry in St. Landry Parish for its cultural and economic impact to the state of Louisiana.