

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Wednesday, April 6, 2022, as Coastal Conservation Association Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, the Coastal Conservation Association, widely known as the CCA, was founded in 1983 in Louisiana by a small group of concerned coastal anglers to preserve and protect Louisiana's coastal resources; and

WHEREAS, the CCA is a grass-roots nonprofit organization, comprised of roughly twenty-five thousand members and volunteers from all sixty-four Louisiana parishes, in thirty local chapters; and

WHEREAS, coastal angling is a way of life in Louisiana, enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children each year, generating billions in economic impact, and tens of thousands of jobs; and

WHEREAS, the CCA has been instrumental in every significant coastal fisheries management issue in Louisiana since 1983, including advocating for improvements to the management of redfish, speckled trout, drum, flounder, tarpon, red snapper, tuna, cobia, shrimp, oysters, crabs, menhaden, and many more; and

WHEREAS, the CCA, along with the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and other conservation partners, has built thirty-five artificial reefs across Louisiana, providing habitat, for a large variety of iconic coastal species; and

WHEREAS, the CCA hosts the annual STAR tournament, the largest saltwater fishing tournament in Louisiana, which runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and welcomes more than ten thousand participants annually; and

WHEREAS, the CCA provides education and outreach to tens of thousands of Louisianians each year, including thousands of children through school and youth group presentations, where a message of coastal stewardship and conservation is delivered; and

WHEREAS, the CCA hosts TAG Louisiana, one of the nation's most prolific and longest-running scientific fish tagging programs; and

WHEREAS, for more than three decades, volunteer "citizen scientists" have tagged and released more than one half million saltwater fish that provides biological data to fishery managers in Louisiana and across the Gulf; and

WHEREAS, the CCA Louisiana hosts the annual Legislators' Fishing Rodeo in Grand Isle, aimed at informing Louisiana leaders about the issues that impact our coastal resources and the recreational fishing industry that will continue with the 2022 Legislators' Rodeo to be held on August 5th and 6th in Grand Isle.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Wednesday, April 6, 2022, as Coastal Conservation Association Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and does hereby express its appreciation to all of the CCA chapters and members who volunteer their time and talents to ensure the well-being of Louisiana's marine resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Coastal Conservation Association of Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE