

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Ready Louisiana Coalition and to designate Tuesday, May 10, 2022, as
Early Education Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, the Ready Louisiana Coalition is a bipartisan statewide coalition that was formed in 2018, consisting of more than one hundred businesses, chambers, advocacy organizations, and early care and educational professionals; the coalition advocates for investment in quality and affordable early care and education in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, members of the Ready Louisiana Coalition believe that investing in quality and affordable education gives students a good start to their lives, enables families to be productive in the workforce, and serves as an economic engine for local communities; and

WHEREAS, research shows that a child's early experiences affect the development of his brain architecture which in turn provides the foundation for all future learning, health habits, and behaviors; and

WHEREAS, ninety percent of brain development takes place between birth and age four; and

WHEREAS, because the very foundation of the brain is built in these early years, children who begin school behind generally remain behind; and

WHEREAS, children who receive quality and affordable early care and education experience better outcomes in education, health, and social behaviors over the long term; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, the average family spends \$8,500 a year on child care, an amount which is a considerable part of the household budget of so many; and

WHEREAS, during this critical age for early brain development, the current lack of quality and affordable early care and education harms all families and has a disproportionate impact on children of color and those in poverty; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, the lack of quality and affordable early care and education affects not only the workforce of tomorrow, but also exerts a substantial impact on the workforce of today, especially with respect to worker participation and productivity; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that investment in quality and affordable early care and education can produce a thirteen percent return on investment; and

WHEREAS, child care issues and lost workforce participation and productivity have resulted in more than a \$1.3 billion dollar loss for Louisiana's economy; and

WHEREAS, the over one hundred organizations from across Louisiana that comprise the Ready Louisiana Coalition are working to provide access to quality and affordable early care and education that will improve children's outcomes, strengthen the state's families and workforce, and build Louisiana's economy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Ready Louisiana Coalition and does hereby designate Tuesday, May 10, 2022, as Early Education Day at the state capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Ready Louisiana Coalition.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES