

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 88

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

A RESOLUTION

To designate April 9, 2024, as Southern University Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, Louisiana is home to the nation's only Historically Black College and University System, the Southern University System, which is uniquely positioned as an exemplar with a profound commitment to research and student success; the university's board of supervisors is celebrating 50 years of service to the students, faculty, staff, and community surrounding the system's five campuses in Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Southern University and A&M College System is to deliver affordable world-class education and transformative public service to the state of Louisiana and beyond through shared governance, leadership, and a diverse system of unique institutions; and

WHEREAS, students and faculty from throughout the Southern University System are hosting their first "Research in the Rotunda" at the Louisiana state capitol where they will share exceptional work and discovery that is transformative and meaningful for teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, Southern University and A&M College, a Carnegie Research 2 institution with high research activity, was awarded a grant from the Biden-Harris Administration to aid in the pursuit of the Carnegie Research 1 high research activity designation, received a joint award from NASA, for their combined work on NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) rocket; additionally, the university's John B. Cade Library has been officially designated as a national Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) to serve the community at large; and

WHEREAS, Southern University at New Orleans continues to expand its technology efforts and service to the community by using part of a \$3 million grant to aid in providing internet access to the city of New Orleans during natural disasters; the university also formalized an articulation agreement for the Cybersecurity Degree Pathway with Delgado

Community College to train future cybersecurity practitioners for workforce demands in the field of information technology; and

WHEREAS, Southern University Shreveport (SUSLA) celebrates fifty-six years of providing an excellent, accessible educational experience to students and programming for its surrounding community, and has acquired a New Mobile Health Unit which will travel across parts of northwest Louisiana providing quality health and dental screenings to underserved populations and bring healthcare to communities that otherwise may not receive these services, while building the capacity of the minority healthcare workforce through their Allied Health and Nursing division to support the development of a workforce that is equipped to address health disparities and engage in meaningful community work; and

WHEREAS, The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SU Ag Center), which has expanded its statewide reach from 35 to 48 parishes, has been awarded the first USDA Agricultural Science Center of Excellence for Nutrition and Diet (ASCEND) Pilot Nutrition Hub, and celebrates its 81st Annual Livestock and Poultry Show as the only 1890 Land-Grant University that continues this tradition of providing youth throughout the state an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, Southern University Law Center (SULC), a highly ranked legal education institution, thrives on providing access and opportunity to the community through partnerships with government and nonprofit organizations to bring transformative resources, such as granting expungement to justice-impacted individuals, and has prospered within the Esports industry by hosting regional and national tournaments in the newly established Esports Innovation Lab; and

WHEREAS, the Southern University System is most deserving of the highest recognition for its continued excellence over the last five decades.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, April 9, 2024, as Southern University Day at the state capitol and does hereby acknowledge the invaluable contributions this institution has made to the state of Louisiana.