

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates May 1, 2024, as St. Bernard Parish Day at the capitol

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Wednesday, May 1, 2024, as St. Bernard Parish Day at the capitol.

3 WHEREAS, St. Bernard Parish lies five miles south of downtown New Orleans,
4 Louisiana, and bestows scenic beauty, cultural treasures, bountiful waterways, and tranquil
5 surroundings to the environs of the southeast region of the state; and

6 WHEREAS, St. Bernard is a community of congenial people who have maintained
7 a unique cultural identity since its founding under Spanish colonial rule; and

8 WHEREAS, Canary Islanders, who identified themselves as "Isleños", immigrated
9 to the lower edge of the parish to join Creole-Acadian pioneers, who settled there in 1720;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, its extraordinary history is commemorated throughout the year as
12 visitors view historically significant sights such as the Chalmette Battlefield at Jean Lafitte
13 National Historic Park and Preserve where, in 1815, a young nation, the United States of
14 America, maintained control of the Mississippi River trade route by the defeat of British
15 forces during the Battle of New Orleans on the plains of Chalmette; and

16 WHEREAS, the historic Malus-Beauregard House, built in the 1830s, is located on
17 the battlefield grounds and is one of the most significant historic structures in the New
18 Orleans area; and

19 WHEREAS, adjacent to the battlefield is the Chalmette National Cemetery
20 established in 1864; its gravesites recall for visitors the various military conflicts throughout
21 American history from the War of 1812 and the Civil War to the Vietnam War; and

1 WHEREAS, the San Bernardo Scenic Byway follows an ancient estuary that was
2 once a main channel of the Mississippi River; this meandering roadway is festooned with
3 grand architectural wonders constructed in the nineteenth century; and

4 WHEREAS, with an abundance of waterways and wetlands, St. Bernard Parish is
5 well known for its fresh seafood and culinary delights that reflect Creole, African, Filipino,
6 and Spanish influences; and

7 WHEREAS, navigable water bodies with access to the Gulf of Mexico, such as Lake
8 Borne, the Mississippi River, and Breton Sound, make St. Bernard a "Sportsman's Paradise"
9 for fishing, hunting, trapping, and birdwatching; and

10 WHEREAS, the impact of this cultural cornucopia is evident in year-round activities
11 and festivals that reflect the heritage of this inviting southern community; and

12 WHEREAS, annual festivities include the Battle of New Orleans Commemoration,
13 the Knights of Nemesis Mardi Gras parade, the Irish, Italian, and Isleños parades, the Los
14 Isleños Festival, the Louisiana Crawfish Festival, the Tomato Festival, the Sugar Festival,
15 the St. Bernard Salutes America Celebration, the Blessing of the Fleet, Trick or Trunk, the
16 Oyster Festival, Fiesta de la Concepcion, All Saints Day Mass and Celebration, Isleños
17 Christmas, the Christmas Tour of Homes, the Community Christmas Concert, and Santa on
18 the Bayou; and

19 WHEREAS, ancient oaks, magnolias, and other fragrant flora align with ageless
20 plantation homes and cemeteries where the past and present meet and come alive; and

21 WHEREAS, in the Old Arabi Historic District, several sites are recognized by the
22 National Register of Historic Places that include the St. Bernard Voice, the weekly
23 community newspaper, dating back to 1870; the Old Jail, completed in 1911; the Maumus
24 Center, the site of the parish's first high school; the Cavaroc House, built in 1839; and
25 Domino Sugar Refinery; and

26 WHEREAS, the people, businesses, and government entities of St. Bernard Parish
27 displayed their resilience in rebuilding their community after its near-total destruction by
28 Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005; and

1 WHEREAS, the multicultural oasis that is St. Bernard Parish is a medley of
2 waterways, townships, and historic destinations teeming with a kaleidoscope of attractions
3 and interesting people that lie nestled in the lush natural beauty of Southeastern Louisiana.

4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, May 1, 2024, as St. Bernard
6 Parish Day at the capitol and does hereby acknowledge the many contributions of culture,
7 beauty, and economic prosperity made to the state by its citizens.

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)]

HR 167 Original

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