

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY REPRESENTATIVES BUTLER AND CHASSION

A RESOLUTION

To designate the city of Opelousas as the Horse Capital of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana has a long history of horse culture that is rooted in the city of Opelousas, where locals regularly engage in horse racing, breeding, and leisure activities; and

WHEREAS, Opelousas was home to the Chinawood Stock Farm, a horse farm and racetrack that operated from 1907 until 1909 on land that is now Evangeline Downs; Chinawood was known for breeding highly-regarded horse bloodlines, and many other states purchased horses from the farm; and

WHEREAS, The Academy of the Sacred Heart at Grand Coteau is a private Catholic girls' school that was founded in 1821 with a special dedication to local horsemanship; the school's Equestrian Center offers riding as part of the academic curriculum and recreational training and lessons; the school's Interscholastic Equestrian Association Team has produced numerous national champions including Opelousas-native, Mia Manzanares, a two-time women's all-around rodeo champion at College National Finals Rodeo; and

WHEREAS, horses are vitally important to the economy in Opelousas and St. Landry Parish, and they have strong bonds with the local way of life; many businesses and educational entities in the region focus entirely on the skills of riding, handling, and training horses.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate the city of Opelousas as the Horse Capital of Louisiana; does hereby further recognize the historic relationship between our country's equine industry and the city of Opelousas; and does hereby encourage all Louisianians to support the equine population and the equine industry across the state of Louisiana.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES