

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 212

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates April 29, 2026, as St. Bernard Parish Day at the state capitol

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 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; Canary Islanders,  
8 who identified themselves as "Isleños", immigrated to the lower edge of the parish to join  
9 Creole-Acadian pioneers who settled there in 1720; and

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

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

18 WHEREAS, the Chalmette National Cemetery was established in 1864 and sits  
19 adjacent to the battlefield; the cemetery recalls the various military conflicts throughout  
20 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, an abundance of waterways and wetlands make St. Bernard Parish a  
5 "Sportsman's Paradise" for fishing, hunting, trapping, and birdwatching; the parish is well  
6 known for its fresh seafood and culinary delights that reflect Creole, African, Filipino, and  
7 Spanish influences; and

8           WHEREAS, the impact of St. Bernard Parish's cultural cornucopia is evident in  
9 year-round activities and festivals that reflect the heritage of this inviting southern  
10 community, including the Battle of New Orleans Commemoration; the Knights of Nemesis  
11 Mardi Gras parade; the Irish, Italian, and Isleños parades; the Los Isleños Festival; the  
12 Louisiana Crawfish Festival; the Tomato Festival; the Sugar Festival; the St. Bernard Salutes  
13 America Celebration; the Blessing of the Fleet; Trick or Trunk; the Oyster Festival; Fiesta  
14 de la Concepcion; All Saints Day Mass and Celebration; Isleños Christmas; the Christmas  
15 Tour of Homes; the Community Christmas Concert; and Santa on the Bayou; and

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

18           WHEREAS, the Old Arabi Historic District houses several sites that are recognized  
19 by the National Register of Historic Places, including *St. Bernard Voice*, the weekly  
20 community newspaper that dates back to 1870; the Old Jail, which was constructed in 1911;  
21 the Maumus Center, which is the site of the parish's first high school; the Cavaroc House,  
22 which was built in 1839; and the Domino Sugar Refinery; and

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

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

29           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
30 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, April 29, 2026, as St. Bernard

- 1 Parish Day at the capitol and does hereby acknowledge the many contributions of culture,
  - 2 beauty, and economic prosperity made to the state by its citizens.
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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)]

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