

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY SENATOR BASS

A RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, May 5, 2026, as Literacy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to recognize The Center for Literacy & Learning for its leadership in advancing literacy statewide.

WHEREAS, studies have shown that students who do not read proficiently by the end of third grade are four times more likely to drop out of school and those students who lack basic reading proficiency are nearly six times more likely to leave school without earning a diploma; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia, a specific learning disability that affects as many as one in five individuals, presents a significant barrier to reading success without proper support; and

WHEREAS, literacy is foundational to a student's academic success, long-term opportunity, and personal empowerment; and

WHEREAS, a study, in 2022, found that seventy-two percent of Louisiana's fourth grade students did not read proficiently, placing the state forty-second in the nation for fourth grade reading achievement; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, Louisiana made historic progress by climbing twenty-six places in national ranking and now ranks sixteenth in the nation for fourth grade reading, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress; and

WHEREAS, The Center for Literacy & Learning, founded in 1992, has for the past thirty-three years implemented evidence-based instructional and coaching practices that improve teaching and increase student learning outcomes from birth to twelfth grade; and

WHEREAS, the center draws on over three hundred fifty combined years of professional education experience, focusing on closing the achievement gap through targeted, high-quality professional development for educators of at-risk students; and

WHEREAS, The Center for Literacy & Learning employs a comprehensive literacy wraparound approach, providing services to educators, families, and communities that support learning both inside and outside the classroom; and

WHEREAS, over the past seven years the center has successfully advocated for the creation of instrumental commissions that have shaped the state's literacy policies, including the Early Literacy Commission and the Louisiana Literacy Advisory Commission; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Education, the center launched the Literacy Coaching Program in 2020; and

WHEREAS, improving literacy across Louisiana is vital to building a strong workforce, creating high-quality jobs, and sustaining long-term economic growth.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, May 5, 2026, as Literacy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, does hereby commend the dedicated work of The Center for Literacy & Learning, and does hereby celebrate the notable progress in fourth grade literacy scores in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to The Center for Literacy & Learning.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE