

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY SENATOR JOHNS

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 6, 2014, as "Louisiana Chemical Industry Day".

WHEREAS, nature endowed Louisiana with gifts that provided the spring board for major industry that has brought great benefits to the people of the state; and

WHEREAS, these gifts of nature include abundant oil and natural gas deposits, salt dome caverns, sulfur deposits, fresh water and access to oceans of the world through the Calcasieu Basin and the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, the petrochemical industry that has developed and grown around these natural amenities has become one of Louisiana's greatest assets; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry acknowledges that it depends on Louisiana and its residents for these resources, a well-trained workforce and a strong business climate; and

WHEREAS, the chemical industry provides the most direct jobs in our state's manufacturing sector, employing nearly 27,000 Louisiana residents in fifty-three of our state's sixty-four parishes and tens of thousands more employees in hundreds of businesses that support the industry; and

WHEREAS, an additional 140,000 jobs are generated indirectly by chemical industry activities in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry produces nearly \$58 billion in products annually, the third highest total in the nation, and provides annual exports of \$8.3 billion in chemical products worldwide; and

WHEREAS, chemical industry wages in Louisiana are 47% higher than the average manufacturing wages in the state; and

WHEREAS, the chemical industry contributes more than \$1 billion annually to state and local coffers through direct tax payments and through household earnings generated by the Louisiana chemical industry; and

WHEREAS, more than \$8.9 billion in total direct employee earnings is generated by local chemical companies; and

WHEREAS, our citizen's lives are enhanced and improved every day by chemical products produced in our state, ranging from fire resistant foam used in our beds and the chairs in which we sit; to the nitrogen in bags that give potato chips a longer shelf-life; to golf clubs, hard hats, bullet proof vests, contact lenses, pacemakers, and thousands of other consumer products enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry is more than a group of companies and is comprised of a collection of people who wish the same things as their neighbors - safe and clean communities with vibrant neighborhoods, good schools, and a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry is essential to Louisiana's economic growth and economic development.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the essential role the chemical industry plays in Louisiana's economic development and proclaims May 6, 2014, as "Louisiana Chemical Industry Day".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Chemical Association.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE