

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOUIE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Families and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children (FFLIC) and to recognize Wednesday, March 30, 2016, as FFLIC Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, in the state of Louisiana, students can be suspended from school for minor infractions of school rules, including for "willful disobedience", a vaguely defined and arbitrarily enforced ordinance, and research shows a strong correlation between harsh discipline practices, dropping out of school, and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, in the 2013-2014 school year, 36,569 students received in-school or out-of-school suspensions in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, FFLIC is a statewide grassroots and membership-based organization founded in 2001 that is committed to abolishing the school-to-prison pipeline through the reform of systems that put children at risk of prison; and

WHEREAS, FFLIC seeks to cultivate parent leaders to serve as empowered change agents in their communities and encourages parents and schools to eschew punishment in favor of positive behavior supports in the classroom and at home; and

WHEREAS, FFLIC encourages schools to use positive interventions and the use of professional development curricula for troubled youths to decrease the number of children pushed out of school; and

WHEREAS, FFLIC has been instrumental in ushering in reforms of the juvenile and criminal justice systems and helped pass the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2003, which led to the closing of the notorious Tallulah Correctional Center for Youth in 2004; and

WHEREAS, FFLIC continues to seek equal life opportunities for all children, particularly those involved in or targeted by the juvenile justice system; and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, March 30, 2016, families and youths from across the state will gather on the steps of the capitol to raise awareness of the deleterious consequences of the school-to-prison pipeline and to voice their desire for reform of the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Families and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children for its tireless efforts to reform the juvenile and criminal justice systems and hereby recognizes Wednesday, March 30, 2016, as FFLIC Day at the state capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of FFLIC.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE