

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To designate Thursday, April 26, 2018, as Children's Advocacy Centers Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, April has been designated as National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, one in ten children will be sexually abused by the age of eighteen, and in 2017, twenty-five children in Louisiana died as a result of abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's Children's Advocacy Centers, or CACs, have helped to make Louisiana a safer place for children and families since 1991; and

WHEREAS, CACs are community-based agencies designed to meet the unique needs of the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, all of Louisiana's parishes are served by the state's sixteen CACs, and thousands of Louisiana's children and their families benefit because of their advocacy, education, and awareness efforts; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Louisiana's CACs is to provide every child victim a comfortable and child-friendly environment; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's CACs help abused or neglected children by providing developmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive forensic interviews, coordinated case planning, and other services to prevent further trauma to the child and promote healing for the child and family; and

WHEREAS, CACs use evidence-based practices to support the well-being of children, and such practices have been shown to improve outcomes for children, reduce trauma for families, and save taxpayers money; and

WHEREAS, child abuse disproportionately affects communities where resources are not readily available for victims in stressful situations; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of child abuse through the strengthening of families is better for children and more cost effective for Louisiana taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, CACs work with local communities to educate individuals to prevent, recognize, and respond to child abuse; and

WHEREAS, CACs work as part of multidisciplinary teams of professionals; teams include members of law enforcement agencies, child protection services, legal services, the medical profession, the mental health profession, and victim's advocates organizations; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's CACs are well equipped to serve the needs of Louisiana's abused children and are well suited to helping children by coordinating investigations and delivering services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Thursday, April 26, 2018, as Children's Advocacy Centers Day at the state capitol and does hereby commend the dedication and excellent work of the staffs of Louisiana's Children's Advocacy Centers on behalf of the citizens of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers board president, Stacie LeBlanc, and executive director, Tyler M. Bosworth.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES