

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 133

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate programs and volunteers.

WHEREAS, the people of Louisiana pride themselves on giving back to the community and contributing to the improvement of the quality of life of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) is to ensure a safe, permanent home for all children with quality advocacy from a CASA volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana CASA volunteers, in association with the National CASA Association, speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children; CASA volunteers are trained community members appointed by a judge to represent such children; and

WHEREAS, there are seventeen CASA programs serving sixty-one parishes across Louisiana; Louisiana CASA volunteers have donated roughly \$1.4 million worth of service hours; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana saw 51,639 reports of child abuse or neglect in 2022; approximately 6,272 Louisiana children were placed in foster homes and institutions because they were unable to live safely with their families; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana CASA received the service of 1,500 volunteers who provided over 50,000 combined service hours to 3,400 Louisiana children; and

WHEREAS, CASA of St. Landry-Evangeline volunteer, David Clark, has been named "CASA Advocate of the Year" in recognition of his exemplary service; he and all Louisiana CASA volunteers merit a special measure of commendation for the outstanding work they do on behalf of abused and neglected children in Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate programs and volunteers; does hereby recognize David Clark for his incredible dedication and service to CASA of St. Landry-Evangeline; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that these advocates continue to succeed in their efforts to serve abused and neglected children in our state.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES