

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 146

BY REPRESENTATIVES BAYHAM AND GALLE

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the American Friends of Lafayette and recognizes their efforts to celebrate and commemorate General et Marquis de La Fayette's seven-day visit to Louisiana in 1825

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the American Friends of Lafayette and to recognize their efforts to celebrate
3 and commemorate General et Marquis de La Fayette's seven-day visit to Louisiana
4 in 1825.

5 WHEREAS, from August 15th of this year through September of 2025, the American
6 Friends of Lafayette will celebrate the significant contributions made by Marie-Joseph Paul
7 Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de La Fayette, towards American independence and
8 the bicentennial of Lafayette's "The Nation's Guest" Tour; and

9 WHEREAS, as a 19-year-old French general in 1777, Marquis de La Fayette defied
10 King Louis XVI's direct orders not to get involved in the conflict between Great Britain and
11 its American colonies, and instead he joined the Continental Army to fight the British; and

12 WHEREAS, General Lafayette quickly proved himself in battle and was recognized
13 by General George Washington; and

14 WHEREAS, General Lafayette displayed outstanding leadership while serving
15 alongside Colonel Alexander Hamilton during the siege of Yorktown, which eliminated the
16 crucial British redoubts 9 and 10 and eventually forced General Lord Cornwallis's surrender
17 and turned the tide of the war; and

18 WHEREAS, General Lafayette's participation in the American cause for
19 independence played a pivotal role in convincing France to enter the war; the French

1 financial and miliary assistance directly contributed to the Continental Army's victory over
2 Great Britain, which led to our nation's independence; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1824, President James Monroe and congress believed that American
4 patriotism was waning; the last surviving general of the American Revolution, General
5 Lafayette, was invited to tour the twenty-four states of the Union in hopes of reigniting pride
6 in our nation; the six thousand-mile, thirteen-month-long tour was an enormous success; and

7 WHEREAS, the American Friends of Lafayette is a historical society founded in
8 1932 at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania, that is honoring the contributions of
9 General et Marquis de La Fayette with a celebration of the Bicentennial of Lafayette's tour;
10 the celebration features commemorative events around the country to mark events such as
11 Lafayette's historic seven-day visit to Louisiana in 1825; and

12 WHEREAS, Lafayette was rightfully acknowledged by the French philosopher
13 Voltaire as "the hero of two worlds"; the American Friends of Lafayette are working with
14 numerous local organizations in Louisiana, including the Louisiana State Museum; events
15 will include a Lafayette historical exhibit at the Cabildo.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the American Friends of Lafayette and
18 recognizes their efforts to celebrate and commemorate the significant contributions made by
19 General et Marquis de La Fayette during his seven-day visit to Louisiana in 1825 and does
20 hereby extend sincerest wishes that the commemorative celebration reignites pride in both
21 American and Louisiana history.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 146 Original

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Bayham

Commends the American Friends of Lafayette and recognizes their efforts to celebrate and commemorate the significant contributions made by General et Marquis de La Fayette during his seven-day visit to La. in 1825.