

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 133

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

SENATE. Designates May 31, 2012, as "St. Jude Children's Hospital Day" at the Louisiana Senate.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate May 31, 2012, as St. Jude Children's Hospital Day at the Louisiana Senate.

3 WHEREAS, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital opened in 1962, and was
4 founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas; and

5 WHEREAS, St. Jude's mission is to find cures for children with cancer and other
6 catastrophic diseases through research and treatment; and

7 WHEREAS, St. Jude has treated children from all fifty states and from around the
8 world while also being the only pediatric cancer research center where families never pay
9 for treatment which is not covered by insurance; and

10 WHEREAS, no child is ever denied treatment because of the family's inability to
11 pay; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1962, the survival rate for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, the most
13 common form of childhood cancer, was four percent; and

14 WHEREAS, today, the survival rate for this once deadly disease is ninety-four
15 percent, thanks to research and treatment protocols developed at St. Jude; and

16 WHEREAS, during the past five years, eighty-one cents of every dollar received
17 goes to research and treatment at St. Jude; and

18 WHEREAS, with a daily operating cost of one point seven million dollars, which are

1 primarily covered by public contributions, St. Jude treats on average, five thousand nine
2 hundred patients annually, with most treated on an outpatient basis; and

3 WHEREAS, St. Jude maintains seventy-eight inpatient beds, treats upwards of two
4 hundred and sixty patients daily, while remaining the first and only pediatric cancer center
5 to be designated as a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2011, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital was named one of the
7 country's "100 Best Companies to Work For", by Fortune magazine under a two-point five
8 million square feet of research, clinical, and administrative space dedicated to finding cures
9 and saving children; and

10 WHEREAS, St. Jude was the first pediatric cancer research institution to place
11 doctors, scientists, and patients under one roof, creating a worldwide model for bench-to-
12 bedside research and treatment of childhood cancers and other life-threatening diseases; and

13 WHEREAS, St. Jude has revolutionized pediatric cancer treatment around the world
14 with its groundbreaking use of a combination of chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Peter C. Doherty, PhD, of the St. Jude Immunology department,
16 won the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1996, sharing the award with Dr. Rolf
17 M. Zinkernagel, MD, of the University of Zurich, leading to breakthroughs in the
18 understanding and treatment of viral infections and cancers, and the development of organ
19 transplant procedures and vaccines; and

20 WHEREAS, St. Jude was the first institution to produce a cure for sickle cell disease
21 with a bone marrow transplant and has one of the largest pediatric sickle cell disease
22 programs in the country.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
24 does hereby designate May 31, 2012, as St. Jude Children's Hospital Day at the Louisiana
25 Senate.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Broussard-Johnson.

DIGEST

Allain

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