

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 158

BY SENATOR PETERSON

A RESOLUTION

To designate June 2016 as "National Caribbean-American Heritage Month" in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the United States is, and always has been, a nation of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, for centuries, Americans have been united with their Caribbean neighbors not just by friendship and economic cooperation but also by common values and ties of kin; and

WHEREAS, from a region of extraordinary beauty, generations of immigrants have brought their enormous spirit, unique talents, and vibrant culture to the United States, and their contributions have enriched our nation and strengthened the deep bonds we share; and

WHEREAS, throughout the Caribbean, courageous individuals have thrown off the yoke of colonial rule, seizing the right to chart their own destinies, and they have overcome the stains of slavery and segregation to widen the circle of opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans have followed in the footsteps of their ancestors, joining their voices with the chorus of patriots and carrying forward the baton of justice in places like Selma and Seneca Falls; and

WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans strengthen every aspect of our society and we must ensure that the United States remains a magnet for the best and the brightest from around the world by lifting up those hardworking individuals throughout the Caribbean and partnering with governments to build the foundation for the next century of progress and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans have shaped the course of the United States since the earliest chapters of its history, and they continue to drive our nation to realize the promise of our founding fathers; and

WHEREAS, during National Caribbean-American Heritage Month, we honor the courage and perseverance of the Caribbean-American community, and rededicate ourselves to building opportunity and protecting human rights for all our citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate June 2016 as "National Caribbean-American Heritage Month" in Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE