

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 19

BY SENATOR MIZELL

A RESOLUTION

To recognize May 26, 2020, as CASA Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and volunteers for their outstanding work on behalf of the abused and neglected children of Louisiana.

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 Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs in Louisiana, in association with the National CASA Association, speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children; CASA volunteers are trained citizens appointed by a judge to represent these children; and

WHEREAS, the first CASA program in Louisiana began in 1986 in Orleans Parish; in 2019 CASA programs are serving forty-two of forty-three judicial districts including sixty-one parishes across the state, with donated service hours by CASA volunteers valued at \$1.7 million; and

WHEREAS, nearly 14,000 children in Louisiana suffer some form of abuse or neglect each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 4,800 of Louisiana's children are currently unable to live safely with their families and have been placed in foster homes and institutions; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, 3,773 Louisiana children were served by 1,675 volunteers who provided 74,588 hours of volunteer service to Louisiana's foster children; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's CASA programs and volunteers merit a special measure of commendation for the outstanding work that they do on behalf of the abused and neglected children of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize and commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs across the state and the CASA volunteers who give tirelessly of their time and energy to serve as powerful voices for children.

SR NO. 19

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that May 26, 2020, is hereby recognized as CASA Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Louisiana CASA Association.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE