

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 24

BY SENATORS BARROW AND GATTI

A RESOLUTION

To designate Monday, March 19, 2018, as ExxonMobil Day at the State Capitol and to commend ExxonMobil for its long-term contributions to the economy of the state.

WHEREAS, for the past one hundred years the operations of ExxonMobil in the state of Louisiana have contributed greatly to the economy of the state and to the prosperity of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Standard Oil of Louisiana began its refinery operations on two hundred twenty-five acres of farmland in North Baton Rouge with seven hundred workers; and

WHEREAS, Standard Oil through its many acquisitions became ExxonMobil in 1999 and today has grown into a family of companies located throughout the state that began with the Baton Rouge Refinery and expanded to numerous world-class facilities that include plant sites for Baton Rouge Chemical, Baton Rouge Polyolefins, Baton Rouge Plastics, Port Allen Lubricants, ExxonMobil Production Company, XTO Energy Company, and ExxonMobil Pipeline Company; and

WHEREAS, as one of the largest private employers in the state, the workforce for ExxonMobil includes more than six thousand employees and contractors in the Baton Rouge area alone and locations in nearly every corner of Louisiana, from the Haynesville Shale installation to the Baton Rouge chemical plants and deep water drilling rigs in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge Refinery is the largest manufacturing employer in the state of Louisiana, the fourth largest refinery in the United States, and the twelfth largest refinery in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge Chemical Plant is the second largest manufacturing employer in the state; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 1968, the ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Plastics Plant began operations and celebrates its fiftieth anniversary in 2018; its output has grown from an initial processing capacity of one hundred eighty million pounds annually to more than one billion pounds of low density polyethylene and two hundred million pounds of ethylene elastomer products annually; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge Plastics Plant has been recognized on numerous occasions for its commitment to safe, reliable operations and was named "Best in Louisiana" for its 2017 safety performance record by the Louisiana Chemical Association; the plant produces end products such as adhesives, automotive components, and food-safe plastic wraps; and

WHEREAS, the XTO Energy Cotton Valley Gas Plant celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary and remains an integral part of the business community in the parishes of Webster and Claiborne and the Ark-La-Tex region; the facility has evolved into a natural gas processing complex with a cumulative production rate of more than three trillion cubic feet of natural gas and forty million barrels of condensate and light oil petroleum products; and

WHEREAS, XTO Energy is an active community service partner that contributes to local organizations such as the fire departments in both Claiborne Parish and Webster Parish, the Cotton Valley Police Department, and the Claiborne Parish 4-H Club; and

WHEREAS, during the past century, ExxonMobil engineers, scientists, skilled workers, and support staff have played a vital role in shaping the petrochemical industry with cutting edge research, new innovations, and applied technologies to address the energy needs of a growing global economy; and

WHEREAS, these breakthroughs created the first catalytic cracking technology, the development of alkylation processes for the production of high octane aviation fuel, as well as the development of synthetic butyl rubber during World War II; this innovation led to the moniker, the "Cradle of Synthetic Rubber", for the Baton Rouge operations; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana operations of ExxonMobil pay over one hundred million dollars in state and local taxes each year including thirty-three million dollars in ad valorem

taxes for East Baton Rouge Parish alone, and ExxonMobil has paid more than one billion dollars in state and local tax revenues over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil employees and retirees take an active role in the betterment of their communities by providing thousands of volunteer hours annually to nonprofit organizations as well as providing financial assistance through charitable donations and matching grants of nearly four million dollars each year to civic, community, and educational organizations; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil recognizes that workable solutions to twenty-first century problems will require a future workforce with a strong foundation of math and science education; contributions to STEM curricula in schools reflect that commitment; and

WHEREAS, a thirteen million dollar funding grant was presented to the National Math and Science Initiative for Louisiana schools in support of educational programs such as Advanced Placement Training, STEM Learning Network, and Pathways to STEM Education; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil has remained dedicated to stewardship of the environment and has been recognized for its efforts with receipt of awards for proactive leadership in environmental issues; and

WHEREAS, ExxonMobil is committed to the continuous improvement of workplace safety and was recognized by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for voluntary protection programs and exceptional safety performance ratings; and

WHEREAS, after the first one hundred years, ExxonMobil continues to make substantial long-term investments in the future of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes ExxonMobil and its Louisiana facilities for its immense contributions to the economic future of this state and the overall vitality of the United States.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend ExxonMobil for more than a century of partnership and progress in Louisiana and does hereby recognize Monday, March 19, 2018, as ExxonMobil Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does

SR NO. 24

ENROLLED

hereby commend and congratulate the employees and retirees of ExxonMobil for their pursuit of excellence in safety, corporate responsibility, environmental stewardship, local education, and community service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jeff Copeskey, Southern Region of ExxonMobil Corporation, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE