

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 68

BY SENATORS CLOUD AND PEACOCK

A RESOLUTION

To commend the dedicated work of the Center for Development and Learning and to recognize Thursday, May 6, 2021, as Literacy Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, 74% of Louisiana's fourth grade students do not read proficiently and dyslexia is a specific learning disability that affects as many as one in five people; 20% of the population; and

WHEREAS, students who do not read proficiently by the end of the third grade are four times more likely to drop out of school and those who have not mastered at least a basic level of reading proficiency are nearly six times as likely to leave school without earning a diploma; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana spends more than \$270,000,000 annually to remediate students who read below grade level, making reading both an education and economic issue; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Development and Learning was founded in 1992 to develop and disseminate leading-edge scientific research, knowledge, and best practices that improve teaching and increase student learning; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Development and Learning focuses on closing the achievement gap by increasing teacher effectiveness and advancing public education reform by providing educators who teach our most at-risk children with professional learning that is specific and targeted to the needs of those students and their fellow teachers; and

WHEREAS, with an in-the-trenches approach, the Center for Development and Learning tackles real-time issues such as a way to remediate struggling readers, differentiate instruction for diverse learners, and build and sustain collective capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Education has emphasized how important improving our state's literacy rates are and launched a new literacy initiative to spark a reading revival across the state with tools for system leaders, classroom teachers, and family members to support children on their literacy journey; and

WHEREAS, improving the literacy rates in Louisiana is necessary to increase Louisiana students' success in all other areas of their education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the dedicated work of the Center for Development and Learning, does hereby extend gratitude for its work in improving reading proficiency in all of Louisiana's students, and does hereby recognize Thursday, May 6, 2021, as Literacy Day at the state capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Center for Development and Learning.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE