

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY SENATOR MILLS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, April 10, 2018, as Dental Hygiene Day and to commend the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association upon the celebration of one hundred five years of the dental hygienists profession.

WHEREAS, April 10, 2018, has been designated as Dental Hygiene Day in the state; and

WHEREAS, 2018 marks the one hundred fifth anniversary of dental hygiene with the opening of the first dental hygiene school by Dr. Alfred C. Fones in Bridgeport, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, a dental hygienist is a preventive oral health professional licensed in dental hygiene who provides educational, clinical, and therapeutic services supporting total healthcare through the promotion of optimal oral health; and

WHEREAS, the education of a dental hygienist emphasizes all of the basic sciences and eligibility for licensure based upon successful completion of both a written National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and a clinical state board examination; and

WHEREAS, dental hygienists are committed to maintaining the highest levels of quality and to keeping abreast of the most advanced technology in their field, as they advocate continuing education courses in oral healthcare to maintain their licenses and to ensure that they provide state-of-the-art oral hygiene to their patients; and

WHEREAS, a dental hygienist is a vital member of a complete dental team and is responsible for providing treatment that helps to prevent oral disease and for educating the patient to maintain optimal oral health in order to prevent such oral diseases; and

WHEREAS, for over one hundred years, registered dental hygienists have provided quality preventive oral healthcare to millions of American adults and children; and

WHEREAS, dental hygienists have also established a record of excellence in providing quality care for those patients with special needs; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately one thousand six hundred licensed dental hygienists serving the oral healthcare needs of the people of the state of Louisiana alone; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is designated as Dental Hygiene Month, focusing on the preventive benefits of good oral hygiene; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association, along with other dental professions, celebrated Children's Dental Health Month in February, which focused on the needs of dental care for the children of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize dental hygienists and to encourage citizens to become familiar with and appreciative of the benefits of good dental hygiene.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize April 10, 2018, as Dental Hygiene Day in the state, commend the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association upon the celebration of one hundred five years of the dental hygienist's profession, and commend the dental hygienists around Louisiana for their tireless efforts in promoting good dental health for the citizens of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Dental Hygienists' Association.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE