SLS 18RS-970

ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATORS BISHOP AND BARROW

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Designates Wednesday, March 21, 2018, as School-Based Health Care Awareness Day in Louisiana.

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To designate Wednesday, March 21, 2018, as School-Based Health Care Awareness Day in
3	Louisiana.
4	WHEREAS, school-based health care facilities are an important statewide resource
5	helping to address the health care needs of underserved and uninsured children, providing
6	needed preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services, including direct primary and mental
7	health care for acute and chronic illnesses, health education, case management assistance,
8	and immunizations; and
9	WHEREAS, these facilities provide vital counseling on threats to children's health
10	such as childhood obesity, asthma, smoking, substance abuse, and violence, as well as
11	behavioral problems ranging from mild to severe; and
12	WHEREAS, in 1990, as policymakers became concerned about the high morbidity
13	and mortality rates of adolescents, the office of public health in the Department of Health
14	and Hospitals was asked to determine the feasibility of opening school-based health care
15	facilities; and
16	WHEREAS, in 1991, the Adolescent School Health Initiative was enacted and
17	school-based health care facilities came into existence around the state; and
18	WHEREAS, a school-based health care facility provides convenient access to

1 2 comprehensive, primary, and preventive physical and mental health services for public school students at the school site; and

WHEREAS, as students spend a significant portion of their day on school grounds, school-based health care facilities are accessible, convenient, encourage family and community involvement, reduce student absenteeism, reduce parental leave from work for doctor visits, and work with school personnel to meet the needs of the students and their families; and

8 WHEREAS, school-based health care facilities complement school nurses and social 9 workers because generally the scope of practice of school nurses and social workers is more 10 limited than that of the school-based health care facility, which has a broad mandate; and

WHEREAS, the school-based health care facilities are able to provide comprehensive health services to students, providing treatment for minor illness and injury, comprehensive physicals as may be required for school-related activities, behavioral health counseling, treatments for chronic diseases, required vaccines, and other beneficial services

15 to enhance the learning environment of a school; and

16 WHEREAS, at this time, sixty-two school-based health care facilities are operated
17 in twenty-seven parishes throughout the state.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
19 does hereby designate Wednesday, March 21, 2018, as School-Based Health Care
20 Awareness Day in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
 president of the Louisiana School-Based Health Alliance board.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

	DIGEST	
SR 29 Original	2018 Regular Session	Bishop

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