ENROLLED

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY REPRESENTATIVES ORGERON, FREEMAN, AND ROMERO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Thursday, March 14, 2024, as Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) was founded in 1983 in Louisiana by a small group of concerned coastal anglers to preserve and protect Louisiana's coastal resources; and

WHEREAS, CCA is a nonprofit organization comprised of roughly 25,000 members and volunteers from all sixty-four Louisiana parishes in its thirty local chapters; and

WHEREAS, coastal angling is enjoyed by hundreds of thousands people each year and generates billions of dollars in economic impact and tens of thousands of jobs; and

WHEREAS, CCA has been instrumental in every significant coastal fisheries management issue in Louisiana since 1983; the organization has advocated for improvements to management of redfish, speckled trout, drum, flounder, tarpon, red snapper, tuna, cobia, shrimp, oysters, crabs, menhaden, and many more; and

WHEREAS, CCA, along with other conservation partners, has built forty-nine artificial reefs across Louisiana which provide habitats for a large variety of coastal wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, CCA hosts the annual STAR tournament, the largest saltwater fishing tournament in Louisiana, which runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day and welcomes more than 10,000 participants annually; and

WHEREAS, CCA provides education and outreach to tens of thousands of Louisianans each year, including thousands of children through school and youth group presentations, to whom its message of coastal stewardship and conservation is delivered; and WHEREAS, CCA hosts TAG Louisiana, one of the nation's most prolific and longest-running scientific fish tagging programs; over more than three decades, volunteer "citizen scientists" have tagged and released more than 500,000 saltwater fish, providing biological data to fisheries managers in Louisiana and across the Gulf; and

WHEREAS, CCA Louisiana hosts the annual Legislators' Fishing Rodeo in Grand Isle, aimed at informing Louisiana leaders about the issues that impact our coastal resources and the recreational fishing industry.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Thursday, March 14, 2024, as CCA Day at the state capitol and does hereby express its appreciation to all of CCA's chapters and members who volunteer their time and talents to ensure the well-being of Louisiana's marine resources.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE