

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48

BY REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and volunteers.

WHEREAS, the people of Louisiana pride themselves on giving back to the community and contributing to the improvement of the quality of life of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the mission of CASA is to ensure a safe, permanent home for all children with quality advocacy from a CASA volunteer; and

WHEREAS, the CASA programs in Louisiana, in association with the National CASA Association, speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children; and

WHEREAS, CASA volunteers are trained community members appointed by a judge to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children; there were 51,756 reports of child abuse or neglect in Louisiana in 2023; approximately 7,183 of Louisiana's children were unable to live safely with their families and were placed in foster homes and institutions; and

WHEREAS, there are seventeen CASA programs serving sixty-one parishes across the state, with donated service hours by CASA volunteers valued at \$1.2 million; in 2023, approximately 3,400 Louisiana children were served by approximately 1,400 CASA volunteers who provided more than 38,000 hours of volunteer service to Louisiana's foster children; and

WHEREAS, April 4, 2024, is Louisiana CASA Association's 30th anniversary; Louisiana's CASA programs and all CASA volunteers merit a special measure of commendation for the outstanding work that they do on behalf of the abused and neglected children of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate programs, staff, and board members across the state and David Clark, as well as all the CASA volunteers who give tirelessly of their time and energy to serve as powerful voices for children.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES