SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 41

BY SENATOR STINE

A RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, April 16, 2024, as Tourism Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, travel plays an essential role in preserving Louisiana's culture, propels our economy, and is pivotal in shaping Louisiana's success; and

WHEREAS, travel is vital in creating quality job opportunities with over 218,900 people employed in the leisure and hospitality industry regaining its status as the industry with the fourth highest employment in the state; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana attracted 42.6 million domestic and international visitors to the state in 2022, a 3.8% increase over 2021; and

WHEREAS, domestic and international travelers spent an estimated \$17.1 billion while visiting Louisiana in 2022, a 2.3% increase over 2021; and

WHEREAS, no state general funds are appropriated for tourism; tourism is funded exclusively by a dedication of three one-hundredths of a cent of sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the funds generated by this dedication have been and continue to be used by the Louisiana Office of Tourism under the direction of our Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser, to promote tourism to our state, which has created an enormous economic impact; and

WHEREAS, members of the travel community that represent all corners of Louisiana will be at the capitol on April 16, 2024, to celebrate tourism in Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, April 16, 2024, as Tourism Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and does hereby express appreciation and support for the fine work of the Louisiana travel industry in its mission to bring visitors to Louisiana and provide ambassadorial and financial benefits to the state.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Doug Bourgeois, Assistant Secretary of Tourism at the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE