

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRASS AND WILEY

A RESOLUTION

To designate Thursday, May 8, 2025, as St. James Parish Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, St. James Parish is one of the original nineteen parishes created on March 31, 1807, by an act of the Orleans Territorial Legislature; prior to its creation as a civil parish, the area formed a part of the "Comté d'Acadie" or Country of Acadia, which was composed of the old ecclesiastical parishes of the St. James and "The Ascension"; and

WHEREAS, the region was the ancestral homeland of the Houma and the Chitimacha Native American tribes; the first Acadian exiles settled in the area around 1762, and the French and Spanish established permanent settlements around 1780; and

WHEREAS, the land of St. James Parish is chiefly alluvial with some wooded lowlands and coastal marshes, and the streams and swamplands of the parish provide ample opportunity for hunting and fishing; the parish is the only area that grows Perique tobacco, a product that is highly demanded by large tobacco interests; and

WHEREAS, St. James Parish is deeply connected to the history of education in Louisiana; Jefferson College, one of the best-known and oldest educational institutions in the state, was founded in the parish in 1838 and operated as a state-supported, non-sectarian institution until its closing in 1927; The Sacred Heart of Convent was founded in 1825 by a colony of French nuns and has educated generation after generation of women in the parish, including many from Mexico and Central America; and

WHEREAS, St. James Parish is the home of a number of historically prominent Louisiana citizens, including former Louisiana governor, André Bienvenue Roman; French Journalist, Dr. Pierre Lyon; pioneer in the sugar industry, Valcour Aime; former parish sheriff and minister to Haiti, Louis LeBourgeois; and many others; and

WHEREAS, St. James Parish is a truly remarkable region that is known for its rich culture, abundance of industries, and staunch support of family-owned small-businesses, and the parish is most deserving of the highest recognition for its contributions to the cultural atmosphere of the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Thursday, May 8, 2025, as St. James Parish Day at the state capitol and does hereby express enduring appreciation to the parish and its residents for their contributions to the state of Louisiana.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES