

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 351

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Sons of the American Revolution 250th Liberty Tree Celebration and to encourage parishes in Louisiana to plant a Liberty Tree in a historically important location or in the name of a distinguished figure in American history.

WHEREAS, the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) 250th Liberty Tree Celebration is a five-year program that aims to plant two hundred fifty Liberty Trees with at least one tree planted in each state by July 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the SAR 250th Liberty Tree Program was conceived during the National Society Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR) History 250 Committee's spring 2023 leadership meeting; and

WHEREAS, through SAR's 250th Liberty Tree Program, NSSAR aims to educate the public about the importance of the American Revolution and the sacrifices made to create the United States; and

WHEREAS, Liberty Trees are most impactful when planted in parishes or cities named after a patriotic American figure or in areas that serve as a tribute to U.S. military veterans; and

WHEREAS, the original Liberty Tree was a famous elm tree near Boston Common in Boston, Massachusetts, that stood from 1646 until 1775; in 1765, colonists in Boston staged the first act of defiance against the British at the tree, which became a rallying point for the growing resistance; the area surrounding the tree became known as "Liberty Hall", and the British cut the tree down in 1775 in a futile effort to halt the rebellion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Sons of the American Revolution 250th Liberty Tree Celebration and does hereby encourages parishes in Louisiana to plant a Liberty Tree in a historically important location or in the name of a distinguished figure in American history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that parishes are encouraged to plant such trees around the third Friday of January 2026, which is recognized as Arbor Day in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in selecting the type of tree to plant, tree species native to the area shall be planted and preference shall be given to the oak, the official tree of the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a commemorative plaque shall be installed adjacent to each planting site.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES