

1 of the World"; and

2 WHEREAS, each year, distinguished individuals are chosen to serve as festival
3 royalty, representing the festival and its traditions with honor, pride, and enthusiasm; and

4 WHEREAS, the 2026 Louisiana Strawberry Queen LIV, Aubrey Renee' Brumfield,
5 is honored with this esteemed title to signify her role as an ambassador of the festival and
6 the values it upholds; and

7 WHEREAS, the 2026 Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival King LIV is David Atkins,
8 who was selected for his dedication to the festival and the community; and

9 WHEREAS, the 2026 Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Blossom is Heather
10 Robertson, who exemplifies grace and community involvement and is particularly
11 recognized for her contributions and commitment to the festival and the farming industry;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the 2026 Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Grand Marshal is Emily
14 McKneely Maise; she is given the prestigious role of leading the festival parade, an honor
15 reserved for those who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the Ponchatoula
16 community; and

17 WHEREAS, the 2026 Festival Chairman, Rueben Auter, has provided invaluable
18 leadership and direction in ensuring the continued success of the Ponchatoula Strawberry
19 Festival, making this event a cherished tradition for locals and visitors alike; and

20 WHEREAS, the contributions of these individuals to the Ponchatoula Strawberry
21 Festival reflect their passion for preserving the culture and history of this renowned event,
22 which continues to bring joy and economic benefits to the region; and

23 WHEREAS, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival attracts both young and old to its
24 annual celebration of Ponchatoula's legendary delicacy, with food booths featuring popular
25 choices like strawberry shortcakes and deep-fried strawberries; and

26 WHEREAS, the Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival has the unique status as one of the
27 only festivals at which nonprofit organizations are the only vendors on the official festival
28 grounds.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
30 designate Tuesday, April 7, 2026, as Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival Day at the Louisiana

