

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 115

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Designates Tuesday, May 12, 2026, as A Day Without Child Care Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Tuesday, May 12, 2026, as A Day Without Child Care Day at the Louisiana
3 State Capitol.

4 WHEREAS, early childhood educators make up the workforce that supports the
5 employment of tens of thousands of working Louisiana parents; and

6 WHEREAS, early childhood education, from birth to kindergarten, is significantly
7 underfunded causing educators to leave the field to earn livable wages, resulting in many
8 families unable to access necessary care; and

9 WHEREAS, disruption in child care leaves families, providers, and businesses
10 vulnerable and costs Louisiana's economy one billion three hundred million dollars each
11 year; and

12 WHEREAS, For Providers By Providers (4PXP), Louisiana's only provider-led early
13 care in education (ECE) organization, is leading the statewide coordination of the National
14 Day Without Child Care to elevate the voices of educators, families, and providers; and

15 WHEREAS, for generations, early childhood educators, parents, families, and
16 caregivers have been fighting for equitable access to affordable child care, better pay, and
17 working conditions for providers; and

18 WHEREAS, less than half of child care providers offer staff paid sick days, and

1 fewer than one-third provide health insurance or retirement benefits, highlighting the
2 ongoing challenges in ensuring a stable and supported early childhood workforce; and

3 WHEREAS, among child care providers who lost staff in 2024, nearly half reported
4 that departing employees left for jobs offering higher wages, with lower-paying providers
5 experiencing staff turnover at higher rates than those able to offer more competitive
6 compensation; and

7 WHEREAS, most child care providers report increased staffing costs or challenges,
8 including the ability to pay higher wages and hire experienced staff and experience high
9 turnover as new staff leave within six months of employment; and

10 WHEREAS, early childhood education is essential to a functioning economy and
11 early childhood educators are among the lowest-paid professionals in the education sector,
12 earning an average of \$10.63 an hour in Louisiana despite the critical role they play during
13 a child's formative years in supporting the child's development and learning; and

14 WHEREAS, many early childhood educators earn wages so low that they qualify for
15 public assistance programs, highlighting the disconnect between the value of their work and
16 the compensation they receive; and

17 WHEREAS, studies have shown that inadequate pay contributes to higher turnover
18 rates among early childhood educators, disrupting the stability and quality of care that young
19 children need to thrive; and

20 WHEREAS, low wages often make it difficult to recruit and retain skilled, passionate
21 professionals in the early childhood education workforce, placing additional strain on child
22 care providers and families; and

23 WHEREAS, the lack of accessible, high quality early childhood education hinders
24 Louisiana's capacity to attract and keep young professionals, resulting in a loss of talent,
25 particularly in vital sectors like healthcare and education; and

26 WHEREAS, on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, child care providers, educators, families,
27 and community members across Louisiana are joining the National Day Without Child Care
28 to raise awareness about the urgent need for investment in early childhood education and to
29 advocate for a fully funded child care system that powers the economy and supports working
30 families; and

