

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 283

BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Commends Jewish-Americans in Louisiana on their contributions to the state and nation, recognizes May 2026 as Jewish-American Heritage Month, and encourages observance of Shabbat on May 15-16, 2026

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Jewish-Americans in Louisiana for their contributions to the state and nation;  
3 to recognize May 2026 as Jewish-American Heritage Month in Louisiana; and to join  
4 with other states in encouraging Christians and persons of all faith traditions to join  
5 with their Jewish neighbors in observing a Shabbat from sundown on May 15, 2026,  
6 through nightfall on May 16, 2026, as a time of prayer, reflection, gratitude, and  
7 thanksgiving to Almighty God in celebration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary  
8 of the United States.

9 WHEREAS, on May 4, 2026, President Donald J. Trump issued a proclamation  
10 recognizing May 2026 as Jewish-American Heritage Month, calling upon the nation in  
11 anticipation of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the United States of America, to  
12 observe a national Shabbat from sundown on May 15, 2026, through nightfall on May 16,  
13 2026, as a time of prayer, reflection, rest, gratitude, and thanksgiving to Almighty God, and  
14 as an opportunity for families and communities to gather in recognition of the blessings of  
15 faith, freedom, and national unity; and

16 WHEREAS, Jewish-Americans have contributed immeasurably to the cultural,  
17 economic, scientific, educational, military, and civic development of the United States since  
18 the founding of the nation; and

19 WHEREAS, among the early patriots who supported the cause of American liberty  
20 and independence was Haym Salomon, a Jewish patriot and financier who played a critical

1 role in supporting the Continental Congress and aiding the Revolutionary War effort through  
2 financial services and personal sacrifice, helping to sustain the cause of liberty during the  
3 nation's founding struggle for freedom; and

4 WHEREAS, President George Washington in his historic 1790 letter to the Hebrew  
5 Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island, articulated one of the enduring principles of  
6 American religious liberty by declaring that the United States "gives to bigotry no sanction,  
7 to persecution no assistance", a statement that continues to reflect the nation's commitment  
8 to religious freedom and equal protection under the law for all people; and

9 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is enriched by Jewish citizens and institutions that  
10 have contributed to the arts, business, medicine, law, education, charitable endeavors, public  
11 leadership, and the preservation of religious liberty throughout the state's history; and

12 WHEREAS, Christians acknowledge with gratitude the enduring witness and  
13 heritage of the Jewish people, through whom the Scriptures were preserved and through  
14 whose long historical experience and testimony the broader principles of faith, religious  
15 identity, and religious liberty have been strengthened and advanced; and

16 WHEREAS, Israel and in particular Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria are historically  
17 and Biblically significant regions of Israel that hold profound religious and cultural  
18 importance in the shared heritage of Judaism and Christianity and are among the principal  
19 places where the Holy Bible records many events of the Hebrew prophets and the life and  
20 ministry of Jesus Christ; and

21 WHEREAS, the enduring influence of Israel, and especially Jerusalem, Judea, and  
22 Samaria, is reflected throughout Louisiana and the United States in the names of  
23 communities, churches, religious institutions, and places inspired by the history, geography,  
24 and traditions of the Holy Land and our shared Judeo-Christian heritage; and

25 WHEREAS, May is nationally recognized as Jewish-American Heritage Month, first  
26 proclaimed in 2006 and observed annually to celebrate the accomplishments and heritage  
27 of Jewish Americans; and

28 WHEREAS, in further recognition of Jewish-American Heritage Month and in  
29 anticipation of the upcoming two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the United States of  
30 America, it is appropriate to join with other states across the nation in encouraging

1 Christians and persons of all faith traditions to join with their Jewish neighbors in observing  
2 a Shabbat from sundown on May 15, 2026, through nightfall on May 16, 2026, as a time of  
3 prayer, reflection, rest, gratitude, and thanksgiving to Almighty God.

4       THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Louisiana's Jewish-American citizens for  
6 their contributions to the state and nation; does hereby recognize May 2026 as Jewish-  
7 American Heritage Month in Louisiana; and does hereby join with other states in  
8 encouraging Christians and persons of all faith traditions to join with their Jewish neighbors  
9 in observing a Shabbat from sundown on May 15, 2026, through nightfall on May 16, 2026,  
10 as a time of prayer, reflection, gratitude, and thanksgiving to Almighty God in celebration  
11 of the upcoming two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the United States.

12       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
13 Consulate General of Israel to the Southwest in Houston, Texas, for distribution to  
14 appropriate representatives and officials of the Jewish-American community in Louisiana.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HR 283 Original

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Commends Louisiana's Jewish-American citizens for their contributions to the state and nation, recognizes May 2026 as Jewish-American Heritage Month in Louisiana, and joins with other states in encouraging Christians and persons of all faith traditions to join with their Jewish neighbors in observing a Shabbat from sundown on May 15, 2026, through nightfall on May 16, 2026, as a time of prayer, reflection, gratitude, and thanksgiving to Almighty God in celebration of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States.