

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 325

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

A RESOLUTION

To commemorate Sail 250 New Orleans and the arrival of the tall ships of the world in New Orleans from May 28 through June 1, 2026, in honor of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the United States of America.

WHEREAS, New Orleans will be the first stop as America welcomes the tall ships of the world to the Port of New Orleans for a nationwide celebration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, from May 28 through June 1, 2026, the city will celebrate the Sestercentennial of America with the largest-ever flotilla of tall ships from around the world; and

WHEREAS, Sail 250 New Orleans will bring a majestic nautical spectacle to the historic Mississippi River and host a diverse array of events, festivities, and celebrations across the region to educate, entertain, and engage audiences from communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Port of New Orleans will welcome twelve tall ships and naval vessels from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Uruguay; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Eagle is regarded as "America's Tall Ship" and is homeported in New London, Connecticut; it is a two hundred ninety-five-foot, three-masted barque that carries twenty-two thousand square feet of sail and has a core crew of eight officers and fifty enlisted members; it remains the only active square-rigger in U.S. government service and always leads the Parade of Sail in U.S. port visits; and

WHEREAS, CNS Esmeralda, a steel-hulled, four-masted barquentine, serves as Chile's sail training ship and is often called "La Dama Blanca", or "The White Lady"; the ship is capable of both engine and wind propulsion and historically acts as a diplomatic tool and symbol of national pride; and

WHEREAS, the BAP Unión (BEV-161) is a four-masted, steel-hulled barque and the largest sail training vessel in Latin America; the ship was commissioned by the Peruvian Navy in 2016 and built by Servicios Industriales de la Marina in Callao, Peru; it serves as a floating ambassador and training platform for naval cadets and honors the legacy of the nineteenth-century corvette Unión; and

WHEREAS, the ARC Gloria is a striking three-masted steel barque built in Spain and commissioned by the Colombian Navy in 1968; the ship functions as both the Colombian Navy's flagship and its principal sail-training vessel, and it embodies Colombia's maritime traditions while charting courses as a sailing ambassador around the world; and

WHEREAS, the ROU Capitán Miranda is a three-masted schooner of the Uruguayan Navy that was originally launched in 1930 as a hydrographic research vessel; the ship was converted into a sail-training ship in 1978 and now serves to train young officers in seamanship and leadership and participates in international tall ship events; and

WHEREAS, GLADAN is one of two sail training ships operated by the Swedish Navy and was built in 1947 to replace earlier training ships; the ship is designed as a square topsail schooner in the traditional Baltic pilot style and serves as a platform for cadets to gain hands-on experience in seamanship, navigation, and leadership while voyaging across the world; and

WHEREAS, the HNLMS Friesland (P842) is a Holland-class offshore patrol vessel that is operated by the Royal Netherlands Navy and was commissioned on January 22, 2013; the ship is named after the Dutch province of Friesland and serves as a modern multi-role platform for maritime security and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, ARA Libertad is a three hundred forty-foot, three-masted, steel-hulled tall ship based in Buenos Aires that was built in 1963; the ship is one of the world's largest and fastest tall ships, serves as a training vessel for the Argentine Navy, and has sailed over eight hundred thousand nautical miles and visited five hundred ports in more than sixty countries; and

WHEREAS, USS Kearsage is a versatile amphibious assault ship designed to project power from sea to shore and carries Marines, aircraft, and landing craft in a single integrated platform; the ship has a flight deck that resembles a small aircraft carrier and a floodable well deck for amphibious operations, and it serves as a floating hub for rapid-response military and humanitarian missions worldwide; and

WHEREAS, USS Farragut is a multi-mission guided missile destroyer built to defend against air, surface, and subsurface threats while operating independently or as a part of a carrier strike group; the ship is equipped with the Aegis Combat System and a versatile array of missiles and sensors, and it delivers precision, speed, and adaptability across modern naval operations; and

WHEREAS, USCGC Mohawk is a medium endurance cutter built for long-range patrols, specialization in law enforcement, search and rescue, and maritime security missions; the ship features a balanced mix of endurance, speed, and seakeeping and serves as a reliable workhorse on extended operations across coastal and international waters; and

WHEREAS, HMS Trent is a modern offshore patrol vessel built for persistent global presence, conducting maritime security, counter-smuggling, and patrol missions far from home waters; the ship is designed for efficiency and endurance and combines a relatively small crew with advanced sensors and a flexible mission deck to operate independently for extended deployments; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the state of Louisiana recognizes the tall ships and naval vessels of the world during the landmark celebration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the nation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commemorate Sail 250 New Orleans and the arrival of the tall ships of the world in New Orleans from May 28 through June 1, 2026, in honor of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the United States of America and does hereby encourage citizens to join in the celebration of the storied maritime history of the nation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES