

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 167

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Friday, May 29, 2026, as Youth Legislature of Louisiana Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to commend Youth Legislature of Louisiana for its longstanding commitment to civic education, leadership development, and student engagement in the legislative process and to recognize its transformative impact on young leaders throughout the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Youth Legislature of Louisiana is an educational program dedicated to inspiring and empowering future generations of leaders through civic engagement and experiential learning; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1978, Youth Legislature of Louisiana has been shaped by decades of passionate students, educators, mentors, and civic leaders, providing an opportunity for young people to foster and develop skills to experience the responsibilities of lawmakers, engage in critical analysis of public policy, and influence meaningful change for the betterment of the state; and

WHEREAS, the program has established itself as an innovative and highly respected model for civic education, cultivating informed, engaged, and confident young citizens equipped to participate actively in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, each year, more than one thousand eight hundred middle school students representing diverse educational settings across approximately fifteen parishes participate in mock legislative sessions held at the historic Old State Capitol in Baton Rouge serving as legislators, committee chairs, members of the media, and executive branch officials, thereby gaining firsthand knowledge of the legislative process and the responsibilities of public service; and

WHEREAS, by simulating the legislative process, the program deepens civic engagement and understanding, enabling students to learn how laws are created and demonstrating the profound impact their voices can have within their communities and across the state; and

WHEREAS, Youth Legislature of Louisiana further strengthens critical thinking by encouraging participants to analyze real-world issues, evaluate competing viewpoints, and develop persuasive, solution-oriented proposals; and

WHEREAS, students participating in the program develop confidence and proficiency in public speaking as they learn to present ideas effectively, advocate for legislation, and communicate with clarity and conviction; and

WHEREAS, through hands-on education and meaningful collaboration, students not only gain a greater appreciation for government and public service but also build lasting relationships, strengthen their sense of civic responsibility, and discover their own potential to shape the future of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Friday, May 29, 2026, as Youth Legislature of Louisiana Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, does hereby commend Youth Legislature of Louisiana for its extraordinary contributions to civic education and youth leadership development, and does hereby recognize its enduring impact in preparing future generations of engaged and informed citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Cheryle Totten, Founder and Executive Director of the Youth Legislature of Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE