

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR PERRY

SENATE. Recognizes April 23, 2014, as Acadiana Day at the Capitol.

A RESOLUTION

To recognize April 23, 2014, as Acadiana Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, Acadiana is the home of the Cajuns, the descendants of the Acadians, who settled along the bayous and prairies of southwest Louisiana after their expulsion from the colony of Acadie in present-day Nova Scotia in 1755; and

WHEREAS, Acadiana includes twenty-two parishes, and stretches from its western border of Lake Charles to its eastern border of Grand Isle, with its northern apex located around Pointe Coupee; and

WHEREAS, despite the frequent association of Cajuns with swamplands, Acadiana is geographically diverse, and consists of prairies, marshes, and wooded river or bayou lands; and

WHEREAS, Acadiana evinces a commitment to education, and boasts the presence of three universities: the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, McNeese State University, and Nicholls State University; and

WHEREAS, Acadiana is characterized by a diverse population that is nonetheless united by the incredibly rich musical, cultural, and culinary traditions of the Cajuns and Creoles; and

WHEREAS, Acadiana is renowned for wide-ranging and spicy cuisine and is

1 populated by a tantalizing selection of restaurants which offer such Cajun and Creole  
2 delicacies as seafood gumbo, crawfish etouffe, and jambalaya; and

3 WHEREAS, Acadiana is famous for the Cajun and Zydeco music that is born out of  
4 the enduring spirit of Acadians and Creoles and is a place where fais do-dos invite listeners  
5 to two-step to the rhythms of accordions, fiddles, and 'tit fers; and

6 WHEREAS, in Acadiana, festivals are as much a part of daily life as good music and  
7 good food, with year-round festivals, including Mardi Gras, Festival International de  
8 Louisiane, the Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival, the "Le Cajun" Music Awards and Festival,  
9 the Southwest Louisiana Zydeco Festival, Festivals Acadiens et Creoles, Best of the Bayou  
10 Festival, Louisiana Cotton Festival, Duck Festival, Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival, and  
11 "A Cajun Christmas", a festival that extends throughout the holiday season; and

12 WHEREAS, in its cuisine, music, and culture, the people of Acadiana are  
13 characterized by a cheerful enjoyment of life, what the French call "joie de vivre", that is  
14 reflective of a unique heritage and culture that is hard to find anywhere this side of Europe;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Acadiana offers a multitude of attractions that mirror the pride Acadiana  
17 holds for its past, including majestic plantation homes, vibrant gardens, and exciting  
18 museums; and

19 WHEREAS, Cajun Country is a prime example of why Louisiana is called the  
20 "Sportsman's Paradise" and is a place where both freshwater and saltwater fishing, waterfowl  
21 hunting, and upland hunting areas are plentiful, from the vast swamp wilderness of the  
22 Atchafalaya Basin to the Gulf of Mexico; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1971, the Legislature of Louisiana officially recognized Acadiana for  
24 its unique Cajun and Acadian heritage per House Concurrent Resolution No. 496.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
26 does hereby recognize April 23, 2014, as Acadiana Day at the Louisiana State Capitol to  
27 celebrate the cuisine, Grammy Award winning music, and culture of Cajun Country.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
29 Acadian Delegation.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

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DIGEST

Perry

SR No. 20

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