

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY SENATOR BROOME

A RESOLUTION

To commend the service and contributions of The Links, Incorporated and to recognize Wednesday, April 23, 2014, as Louisiana Links Day at the State Capitol.

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated organization, founded by two Philadelphia matrons, Margaret Hawkins and Sarah Scott on November 9, 1946, and incorporated in 1951, is an international not-for-profit corporation consisting of more than twelve thousand professional women of color in two hundred seventy-two chapters located in forty-two states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Germany, and South Africa which is dedicated to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated has eight chapters located in Louisiana: the Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Crescent City, LaCapitale, Monroe-Grambling, New Orleans, Pontchartrain and Shreveport chapters; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated identifies and addresses concerns, through financial contributions and as public service volunteers, involving a multitude of issues: child literacy, after-school programs, college readiness, scholarship, and mentoring; drug and HIV/AIDS awareness and health and wellness awareness; partnering with local museums, symphonies, art councils, educational institutions, and corporations to support art programs and presentations by artists of color; addressing economic and social inequalities; and developing public policy leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Links has been to discern a need and fulfill it, which they have done by donating money and time to charitable efforts, including one million dollars to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and two million dollars to the United Negro College Fund; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, members of Louisiana Links chapters began visiting the Louisiana Legislature to support legislation and policies seeking to provide the infrastructure and funding necessary to implement "Healthy People 2010"; to close the gap in poverty and education; to provide adequate and affordable health care to all citizens; to bring people

home after Hurricane Katrina; to revitalize the New Orleans public school system; to guarantee displaced voters their constitutional right to vote; to reduce child obesity in Louisiana; to advocate for health care and education issues, and many other initiatives seeking to better the quality of life for citizens in our state; and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, April 23, 2014, members of Louisiana Links chapters visit the legislature to voice their concern and continued support of such programs seeking to enrich, sustain, and ensure the cultural and economic survival of African Americans and persons of African ancestry.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the service and contributions of The Links, Incorporated and does hereby recognize Wednesday, April 23, 2014, as Louisiana Links Day at the State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to The Links, Incorporated.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE