

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 71

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize April of 2014 as End Distracted Driving Awareness Month in the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the End Distracting Driving (EndDD) Student Awareness Initiative was started by Joel Feldman and his wife Dianne Anderson, founders of the Casey Feldman Memorial Foundation, in an effort to raise awareness of the dangers of distracted driving and to emphasize the importance of focusing full attention on driving safely; and

WHEREAS, Joel Feldman dedicated himself to this cause to honor the memory of his late daughter Casey Feldman, a 21-year-old, award-winning student journalist who was a senior at Fordham University in New York City when she was killed by a distracted motorist on July 17, 2009; and

WHEREAS, distracted driving kills more than three thousand three hundred people and injures nearly four hundred thousand more each year; EndDD has actively targeted audiences such as students with its Student Awareness Initiative geared to educate and inform drivers about the safety crisis related to distracted driving, its costs, implications, and often fatal consequences; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Association for Justice attorney members are joining more than eight hundred fifty attorneys, judges, and safety advocates from the United States and Canada, in pledging to give safety presentations on distracted driving to local high schools, community groups, and civic organizations, with a goal to reach more than one hundred thousand drivers and potential drivers each year; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana commends the commitment and accomplishments of the EndDD awareness and educational campaigns initiated by Joel Feldman and his wife, Dianne Anderson, as well as efforts by the Louisiana Association for Justice, to bring this campaign to our local schools and communities, as the state strives to make its roads safer for drivers, passengers, and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, it is proper for the Legislature of Louisiana to commend Joel Feldman and his wife, Dianne Anderson, as well as the Louisiana Association for Justice, for their efforts to bring the EndDD Student Awareness Initiative to the state's local schools and communities, as Louisiana strives to make its roads safer for drivers, passengers, and pedestrians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the month of April 2014 as "End Distracted Driving Awareness Month" and encourages all citizens of the state to educate and inform drivers about the perils of distracted driving.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Joel Feldman, Dianne Anderson, and the Louisiana Association for Justice for their efforts to improve highway safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Joel Feldman and his wife, Dianne Anderson, and the Louisiana Association for Justice.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE