

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 133

BY SENATOR BROOME

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Baton Rouge chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., upon the celebration of their fiftieth anniversary and designates May 21, 2014, as "Jack and Jill Day at the Capitol".

WHEREAS, Jack and Jill is a premier national family organization founded on January 24, 1938, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by the late Marion Stubbs Thomas; and

WHEREAS, twenty mothers came together to discuss creating an organization to provide social, cultural and educational opportunities for youth between the ages of two and nineteen; and

WHEREAS, today, the organization boasts over two hundred twenty chapters nationwide, representing over thirty-thousand members and each chapter plans annual programming activities guided under a national theme; and

WHEREAS, Jack and Jill of America Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and since its inception has distributed millions of dollars across the country by supporting programs to develop leadership skills, improving academic test scores, encouraging cultural awareness and instilling moral and social responsibility in America's youth; and

WHEREAS, Jack and Jill of America is divided into seven regions nationally and Louisiana, Texas and New Mexico are members of the south central region; and

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the Baton Rouge chapter include the parishes of East and West Baton Rouge, Ascension, East and West Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, and a portion of Livingston; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge chapter of Jack and Jill was organized as a mother's interest group in 1959 by Marjorie Dumas Lawless, and after the national convention in 1962, was approved as a provisional chapter with eighteen mothers initiated as charter members; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge chapter places a high valuation on activities to promote the goals and aims of the organization through the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, literacy initiatives, voter registration drives, donations to battered women shelters and the elderly living in nursing homes, feeding the homeless, and healthy eating for children; and

WHEREAS, the women of the chapter affectionately refer to Jack and Jill as "A labor of love", and since 1980, the chapter annually hosts its signature event, Breakfast with Santa, which serves a hot breakfast to well over 500 individuals, provides generous toys and crafts for children, and entertainment for those in attendance; and

WHEREAS, in the words of the organization's founder, "To us as mothers, it has become a means of furthering an inherent and natural desire to bestow upon our children all the opportunities possible for a normal and graceful approach to a beautiful adulthood"; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge chapter of Jack and Jill merits a special measure of commendation as they visit the Louisiana State Capitol on Wednesday, May 21, 2014.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Baton Rouge chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., upon the celebration of their fiftieth anniversary and designates May 21, 2014, as "Jack and Jill Day at the Capitol".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Baton Rouge Chapter of Jack and Jill America, Inc.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES