

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 83

BY SENATORS ERDEY AND LAMBERT

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 9, 2017, as "Louisiana Chemical Industry Day".

WHEREAS, nature endowed Louisiana with gifts that provide the springboard for major industry, which has brought great benefits to the people of the state; and

WHEREAS, these gifts include abundant oil and natural gas, salt dome caverns, sulfur deposits, fresh water, and access to the oceans of the world through the Calcasieu Basin and the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, the petrochemical industry that has grown around these natural amenities has become one of Louisiana's greatest assets; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry acknowledges that it depends on Louisiana and its residents for its resources, a well-trained workforce, and a strong business climate; and

WHEREAS, this industry provides the most direct jobs in Louisiana's manufacturing sector, employing nearly twenty-eight thousand citizens in fifty-three of the state's sixty-four parishes and tens of thousands more employees in hundreds of businesses that support the industry; and

WHEREAS, an additional two hundred fifty-seven thousand jobs are generated indirectly by chemical industry activity in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry produces nearly \$58 billion in products annually, the third highest total in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana exports \$8.8 billion in chemical products annually to other parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, chemical industry wages in Louisiana are forty-eight percent higher than the average manufacturing wages in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the industry contributes more than \$1 billion annually to state and local coffers through direct tax payments and through household earnings generated by the Louisiana chemical industry; and

WHEREAS, more than \$8.9 billion of total direct employee earnings is generated by local chemical companies; and

WHEREAS, Louisianians' lives are enhanced and improved every day by chemical products produced in Louisiana, ranging from fire resistant foam used in our beds and chairs; to the nitrogen bags that give potato chips a longer shelf life; golf clubs, hard hats, bulletproof vests, contact lenses, pacemakers, and thousands of other consumer products; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry is more than just a group of companies and is comprised of a collection of people who want the same things their neighbors want: safe and clean communities with vibrant neighborhoods, good schools, and a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana chemical industry is essential to the state's economic growth and development.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the essential role the chemical industry plays in Louisiana's economic development and proclaims May 9, 2017, as "Louisiana Chemical Industry Day".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Chemical Association.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE