

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATOR SELDERS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Southern University for its 145 years of excellence in education, research, and public service, and to recognize April 22, 2025, as Southern University Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, the Southern University System, established in 1880, is proudly celebrating the 145th anniversary of its founding, marking over a century of commitment to academic achievement, leadership, and service to the citizens of Louisiana and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Southern University System is the nation's only historically black university system, comprising five campuses that serve as pillars of higher learning and community engagement: Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Southern University at New Orleans, Southern University at Shreveport, the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, and the Southern University Law Center; and

WHEREAS, Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, the flagship of the system, is a leading producer of African American graduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and boasts the top-ranked nursing program in the nation according to Nurses.org; and

WHEREAS, Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) plays a critical role in expanding access to higher education in the Greater New Orleans area, with strong programs in social work, criminal justice, business, and now nursing and cybersecurity; it has been instrumental in the city's recovery and resilience following Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) continues to serve as a vital access point to higher education in north Louisiana, offering robust programs in allied health, technology, and workforce development that meet the region's economic and employment needs; and

WHEREAS, the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) is a nationally recognized land-grant institution that provides groundbreaking research, extension services, and community-based programs aimed at improving the quality of life for Louisiana citizens, particularly in rural and underserved areas; and

WHEREAS, the Southern University Law Center (SULC), known for its inclusive and accessible legal education, has produced generations of attorneys, judges, and public servants who advocate for justice, civil rights, and equity throughout Louisiana and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Southern University Day at the capitol provides an opportunity for legislators, community members, students, and alumni to come together in celebration of the system's enduring legacy and ongoing contributions to education, leadership, and community advancement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Southern University System on the occasion of its 145th anniversary and does recognize Tuesday, April 22, 2025, as Southern University Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the President-Chancellor of the Southern University System.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE