

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Wednesday, April 23, 2025, as Big Brothers Big Sisters Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, one-in-three kids grow up without a sustained, adult mentor in their life; and

WHEREAS, Big Brothers Big Sisters programs in Louisiana are working to close this gap through their mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth; and

WHEREAS, across our state, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana is in its 46th year of service, while Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana is currently celebrating its 40th anniversary; also, in the fall of 2024, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater New Orleans announced its long-awaited relaunch; and

WHEREAS, these organizations are working tirelessly to unlock the potential of Louisiana's children by creating and supporting relationships between young people, ages six to young adulthood, known as "Littles", and their caring volunteer mentors, also known as "Bigs"; and

WHEREAS, by partnering with parents, guardians, and volunteers, Big Brothers Big Sisters holds themselves accountable for each child in their programs achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence, better relationships, and educational success, as well as avoiding risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, a recently-released, groundbreaking study demonstrates that "Littles" served by Big Brothers Big Sisters programs experience significant, positive long-term outcomes from mentorship, including a 20 percent-higher likelihood of attending college, a 15 percent increase in income between the ages of 20 to 25 compared to their nonmentored peers, as well as improved behaviors and stronger social bonds; and

WHEREAS, this research shows that the mentorship connections cultivated by Big Brothers Big Sisters not only impacts a young person's present, but also shapes their future, contributing to reduced poverty, greater economic stability, and stronger communities; and

WHEREAS, the unwavering commitment, hard work, and dedication demonstrated by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater New Orleans, along with their mission to ignite the potential of Louisiana's youth, is deserving of recognition and commendation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, April 23, 2025, as Big Brothers Big Sisters Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Acadiana, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Louisiana, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater New Orleans.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE