

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 128

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHASSION

A RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, April 14, 2026, as Acadiana's Red and White Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, One Acadiana, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and the UL Lafayette Alumni Association are bringing Acadiana's economic development, chamber, civic, business, and higher education partners together for "Acadiana's Red and White Day" to promote the shared interests of the Acadiana Region; and

WHEREAS, Acadiana's Red and White Day is a celebration of the region's unique identity which unites citizens, civic leaders, educators, business owners, and students to promote the interests and accomplishments of Acadiana, highlight regional priorities, foster dialogue between state lawmakers and local stakeholders, and advocate for continued investment and development in the region; and

WHEREAS, for one hundred and twenty-seven years, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette has supported and improved the educational, social, and economic well-being of Acadiana and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the university has an annual statewide economic impact of \$4.4 billion and supports more than 47,500 jobs; for every dollar invested in the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the university generates \$7.30 in statewide economic impact; and

WHEREAS, the university serves to educate our citizens and grow and strengthen our talent pipeline; ninety percent of current students enrolled at the university hail from Louisiana, and seventy-two percent of these students remain in state for ten years after earning their bachelor's degree; and

WHEREAS, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette was designated for the second time as a Carnegie Research I university, which recognizes the institution as a very high spending and doctorate production university; the university has spent \$1.7 billion on groundbreaking research since 2013 and ranks fourth in the nation for industry-funded research; and

WHEREAS, in March 2026, the university welcomed its seventh president, Dr. Ramesh Kolluru, who is an "Honorary Cajun" with a bold vision for his alma mater and its students; and

WHEREAS, the continued success of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the Acadiana Region, and the state of Louisiana is contingent upon capable leadership, a shared vision, and strong collaboration with partners throughout the region and the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, April 14, 2026, as Acadiana's Red and White Day at the state capitol and does hereby commend the people of Acadiana for their ongoing contributions to the cultural, economic, and social fabric of Louisiana.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES