SLS 26RS-3353 **ORIGINAL**

2026 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY SENATOR OWEN

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Recognizes Friday, May 29, 2026, as Bonfouca Museum and Research Center Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Friday, May 29, 2026, as Bonfouca Museum and Research Center Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, to recognize the dedication of the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center by the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe, and to express sincere appreciation to the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe for the preservation of the indigenous history of the tribal nation in historic Bonfouca for the cultural enrichment and civic pride of Louisiana citizens.

WHEREAS, the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe will dedicate the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center at the historic train depot located in Slidell, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana on Friday, May 29, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the museum, one of the oldest documented locations in Louisiana and West Florida, will preserve and promote the artifacts and history of Bonfouca; and

WHEREAS, the museum will provide a dedicated space to showcase the history and related American Indian artifacts for the purposes of education, cultural enrichment, tourism, economic development, and community representation; and

WHEREAS, the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center will be beneficial to Louisiana residents, newcomers, students, and tourist to the area; and

WHEREAS, the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe are descendants of the mound

builders; and

WHEREAS, the ancestors of the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe are buried in traditional cemeteries throughout the parish of St. Tammany; and

WHEREAS, the Chahta Tribe fought for the United States of America under President Andrew Jackson, including in the Battle of New Orleans and throughout West Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 1830, the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe were the earliest Native Americans to become United States citizens, with dual citizenship, ratified under Article 14 of the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek; and

WHEREAS, President Andrew Jackson gave special provisions to the hereditary chief of the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe, his heirs, and assigns who did not have to relocate to Indian territory in Oklahoma.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Friday, May 29, 2026, as Bonfouca Museum and Research Center Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, recognize the dedication of the Bonfouca Museum and Research Center by the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe, and does express sincere appreciation to the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe for the preservation of the indigenous history of the tribal nation in historic Bonfouca for the cultural enrichment and civic pride of Louisiana citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SCR 78 Original 2026 Regular Session Owen

Recognizes Friday, May 29, 2026, as Bonfouca Museum and Research Center Day at the La. State Capitol and acknowledges the Tchefuncta Nation, Chahta Tribe for the preservation of the indigenous history of the tribal nation in historic Bonfouca.