

State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT PROCLAMATION NUMBER 196 JBE 2020

GOVERNOR KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO PUBLIC POLICY CENTER DAY

WHEREAS, Governor Kathleen Blanco exemplified extraordinary leadership for Louisiana during one of the most challenging times in the state's history during the natural disasters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, while setting the state on a path to recovery with renewed opportunities for Louisiana's future;

WHEREAS, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette established the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center (Blanco Center) in honor of the inspiration, leadership, and vision of Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, governor of Louisiana from 2004 to 2008, and worked with Governor Blanco to create a public policy research center that would provide policymakers and the public with the information necessary to improve lives and communities across Louisiana;

WHEREAS, the Blanco Center will be committed to serving the public interest through leadership in state and local policy, collaborating with faculty from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette who specialize in the center's main areas of education, poverty and economic opportunity, criminal justice reform, health and healthcare, the coast and environment, and governmental ethics;

WHEREAS, a special interest of the center is promoting and expanding the role of women in politics, and providing training for community leaders and elected officials;

WHEREAS, after opening in August 2019, the Blanco Center quickly stepped in during its first year of operation to provide research and policy guidance to support Louisiana as 2020 brought a public health pandemic, widespread economic challenges, and multiple hurricanes, while also focusing on economic recovery and opportunities to support Louisiana's future; and

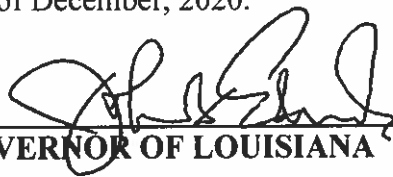
WHEREAS, the Blanco Center will continue to honor the legacy of Governor Blanco by serving the state of Louisiana through supporting multiple agencies and the state legislature to inform and evaluate public policies that affect the lives of every person who calls Louisiana home.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: To honor the legacy of Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco and the work which is continued in her name at the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, December 15, 2020, which would have been her 78th birthday, shall hereby be known throughout the State of Louisiana as Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center Day.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of
Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 14th
day of December, 2020.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE