

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY SENATOR CHABERT AND REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Michael Gulotta, the chef-owner of MoPho restaurant in New Orleans upon being named a "Best New Chef" by *Food & Wine* magazine.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the citizens and the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the incredible honor bestowed upon Michael Gulotta, the chef and owner of MoPho restaurant in New Orleans, Louisiana, who was recently named a "Best New Chef" by *Food & Wine* magazine; and

WHEREAS, Gulotta left his post as executive chef at the restaurant August to open MoPho in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the move appeared risky at the time because August, the flagship restaurant of owner John Besh (a past "Best New Chef"), is one of New Orleans' most elegant and high-profile properties; and

WHEREAS, MoPho is a hybrid Vietnamese-New Orleans po-boy shop and noodle house built in a mid-city strip mall; and

WHEREAS, the *Food & Wine* honor is a significant validation of Gulotta's decision to light out on his own; and

WHEREAS, MoPho has proven to be one of the more compelling new restaurants to open in New Orleans in the last few years; and

WHEREAS, Gulotta says the Asian food at MoPho bridges the Mekong Delta and the Mississippi Delta, and anyone who frequents area Vietnamese restaurants will find much that sounds familiar; and

WHEREAS, at MoPho, bowls of pho, can be ordered with hogs head cheese or duck confit; bánh mì is made with grilled shrimp and country ham; and bánh xèo, the dandelion-yellow crêpe normally folded over bean sprouts, pork and shrimp, becomes a batter for plump gulf shrimp; and if you told Gulotta his cuisine was inauthentic, he wouldn't take that as an insult; and

WHEREAS, Gulotta is on his own now making a name for himself separate from August, and instead of serving foie gras, he's rolling spring rolls, and instead of preparing tasting menus, he's roasting pigs on the patio, his restaurant is so laid back it doesn't even take reservations; and

WHEREAS, in January, Gulotta went back to his Sicilian roots to launch Tana, an Italian restaurant within the mid-city bar Trèo; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon men like Michael Gulotta, who use their extraordinary talents and follow their dreams.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Michael Gulotta, the chef-owner of MoPho restaurant in New Orleans, Louisiana, upon being named a "Best New Chef" by *Food & Wine* magazine and wishes him much success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Michael Gulotta.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES