

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY SENATOR APPEL

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Tommy Cvitanovich upon his selection as the 2010 Times-Picayune Loving Cup recipient.

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper for the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to take notice of the selection of Tommy Cvitanovich as the Times-Picayune Loving Cup recipient of 2010 and his many acts of selflessness the award represents; and

WHEREAS, the Loving Cup has been awarded since 1901 to men and women who have worked unselfishly for the community without expectation of public recognition or material reward; and

WHEREAS, the son of immigrants, Tommy Cvitanovich, at age four moved from Canada to New Orleans with his family, where his parents, Drago and Klara Cvitanovich, founded their Metairie restaurant in 1969; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich's parents instilled in him the value of hard work in service to others through their living testimony; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich's first exposure to giving on a massive scale came in the early 1990s when fighting broke out in his parents' native Croatia; his mother and the recently-retired Archbishop Phillip Hannan coordinated a drive to send food, medicine, clothing, diapers, and other supplies to that beleaguered country; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich understands the benefits of being in this country and giving back to the community and seeks to communicate his appreciation through his conduct; and

WHEREAS, the fifty-one year-old Mr. Cvitanovich contributes extensively to his community; he helps to organize "Taste of the Town", a fundraising effort for Lafraniere Park, and is deeply involved with the work of Padua Pediatrics in Belle Chasse for severely medically fragile children and young adults; he raises money for families of slain police officers and for St. Andrew's Village, an Abita Springs community for disabled adults; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich and his staff at Drago's Restaurant worked tirelessly to feed the people of New Orleans in the aftermath of Katrina, giving away nearly 80,000 meals; and

WHEREAS, in recognition for his work in the days after Katrina, the National Restaurant Association presented Mr. Cvitanovich its Restaurant Neighbor Award along with a \$5,000 check to go to charity; Mr. Cvitanovich presented the money to Grace King High School to help underwrite a kitchen where students prepare for restaurant careers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich has continued his work of speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves by deploying his resources to help people in the seafood industry in the wake of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich represents the best qualities of Louisiana's people: uncompromising commitment to hard work in loving service to others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cvitanovich has been chosen to be the King of the annual celebration of the Mystic Krewe of Louisianians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Tommy Cvitanovich, the Times-Picayune Loving Cup winner for 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Tommy Cvitanovich.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE