

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8010

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Rosepepper Cantina on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should commend those exemplary businesses that, through their unwavering commitment to excellence, are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such notable establishment is Rosepepper Cantina, a beloved staple of the East Nashville community, which celebrated twenty years in business on October 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, this acclaimed Mexican restaurant opened in 2001 in the edifice that previously housed Joe's Diner; located at 1907 Eastland Avenue, Rosepepper Cantina has become a neighborhood favorite and garnered *Nashville Scene's* "Best Margarita" honor for eleven consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, Rosepepper's auspicious start and subsequent success is owed in large part to its founder, the late Ernie Chaires; no stranger to the restaurant business, Mr. Chaires had previously owned and operated Es Fernandos, a fast service Mexican restaurant in the Inglewood neighborhood that was opened by his father, Vince Chaires, in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Ernie Chaires oversaw operations at Es Fernandos until its closing in 2004; Rosepepper Cantina, still in its infancy at that time, then became his sole focus, receiving the full measure of his hard work and passion as he grew it into the beloved, fun, safe, and welcoming establishment it is today; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Chaires passed away in 2014, leaving behind his wife, Ginny Chaires; and their children, Melissa, Aaron, and Andrea, who left her job as an attorney at the advertising

agency R&R Partners in Los Angeles, California, to continue her father's legacy, taking over day-to-day operations of the restaurant; and

WHEREAS, working alongside her mother, Andrea Chaires has spent the last seven years striving to honor what her father built while putting her unique stamp on the restaurant by way of the now-famous marquee sign, which delights patrons, passersby, and internet folk alike with its witty, sometimes topical, often taco- and tequila-centric messages; and

WHEREAS, East Nashville's legendary Rosepepper Cantina provides excellent food, service, and atmosphere to all who enter therein; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we recognize Rosepepper Cantina on this milestone occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of founder Ernie Chaires as we recognize the owners and employees of Rosepepper Cantina in East Nashville for their tireless dedication to quality, congratulate them on the restaurant's twentieth anniversary, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.