

SENATE RESOLUTION 189

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION to honor The Wing Guru and owner Billy Richmond, Jr., on their fifth consecutive Super Bowl commercial.

WHEREAS, we take great pleasure in recognizing an innovative restaurateur who combines the most delicious food with the highest-quality customer service; and

WHEREAS, Billy Richmond, Jr., began his professional odyssey with the hot chicken wing in 2016, when he opened the first The Wing Guru location at 5699 Mt. Moriah Road in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Billy Richmond, Jr., began perfecting the art of hot chicken wings at the tender age of nine, learning at the feet of the master, who was also his father, Billy Richmond, Sr., who has served the Memphis community for more than twenty years; and

WHEREAS, even in its first year of operation, The Wing Guru exceeded expectations by winning the Orange Park Statewide Hot Wing Festival Grand Championship in Florida and taking the award for "Most Creative Sauce" for its now world-famous Honey Suicide sauce at the Santa Anita Hot Wing Cook-Off; and

WHEREAS, in that same year, The Wing Guru was named the No. 6 hot wing restaurant in America, and the next year, the establishment became the official chicken wing partner of the University of Memphis, the alma mater of Billy Richmond, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, The Wing Guru has since prospered to include several Memphis locations and one in Atlanta, Georgia, with plans for further expansion; and

WHEREAS, The Wing Guru offers twenty-one sauce flavors to accent its scrumptious wings, including the Triple J, which was developed in partnership with Memphis Grizzlies star Jaren Jackson, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, during Super Bowl 58, The Wing Guru sponsored its fifth consecutive local commercial featuring Jaren Jackson, Jr., and an abundance of basketball references; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Billy Richmond, Jr., played basketball at Vanderbilt University and the University of Memphis on the collegiate level and played professionally overseas before returning home to Memphis to open The Wing Guru; and

WHEREAS, since that fateful day, The Wing Guru has earned the approbation of a loyal customer base, growing leaps and bounds, and Mr. Richmond has never looked back; and

WHEREAS, Billy Richmond, Jr., and The Wing Guru have earned a special place among the discerning palates of Memphians and other hot chicken wing enthusiasts, and they are worthy of special recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate The Wing Guru and owner Billy Richmond, Jr., on sponsoring their fifth consecutive Super Bowl commercial and wish them all the best in their future saucy endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.