

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 207

BY SENATORS LONG, ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PETERSON, PRICE, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Beverly Walton on thirty-eight years of extraordinary service to the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana as its only dietician and chef and to congratulate her upon her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its thanks and gratitude to Mrs. Beverly Walton, the Senate's executive chef for thirty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, during that time, Ms. Bev, as she is affectionately addressed, has planned and prepared thousands of meals that have filled the gastronomic needs of senators, governors, visiting dignitaries, and legislative staff; and

WHEREAS, her culinary skill runs the gamut of breakfast, lunch, and dinner for any and all occasions that may arise, including Christmas parties and inauguration galas; and

WHEREAS, she has something tasty for every palate and will fulfill special requests, within reason; and

WHEREAS, early in her career, Ms. Bev had the opportunity to prepared haute cuisine with renowned master chefs such as Chef Goffredo Fraccaro and Chef Chris Kerageorgiou of La Provence French Restaurant in Lacombe and the king of Creole cooking, Chef Paul Prudomme; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Ms. Bev was approached by her friend, Sylvia Duke, to operate the new Senate dining room during legislative sessions and she accepted the offer; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Ms. Bev was delighted to cook for actor Paul Newman who portrayed Governor Earl K. Long in the movie, *Blaze*, filmed at the state capitol; and

WHEREAS, she has been in food preparation for many years and often would experiment with unusual recipes at home before preparing them for senators and staff; and

WHEREAS, every year she trains new crew members for the kitchen; Debra Russell, Robyn Eagan, and Cliff Chaney are always at the ready to assist as servers and sous chefs and to make sure that everything goes as planned; and

WHEREAS, during one session, Ms. Bev was hospitalized for nine days; during her convalescence, she would call, dictate the grocery list, and give special preparation instructions if necessary; and

WHEREAS, with legislators from both north and south Louisiana, it was sometimes quite difficult to plan menus and food choices that suited so many different tastes; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bev has generously shared her favorite recipes for salad dressings like raspberry vinaigrette, for desserts like Lemon Sin, Butterfinger Cake, and Blueberry Banana Pie, and for entrees like Crawfish Pie, Chicken Florentine, and her famous Chicken Salad that is like manna from heaven; and

WHEREAS, although Ms. Bev has been slowed a bit by bothersome aches and pains, she is quite determined to finish her term along with Senate President John Alario; and

WHEREAS, in retirement, Ms. Bev will enjoy cooking with her husband, Ronald; their two daughters, Rhonda Barnett and Rebecca Hickey; and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Beverly Walton for her years of exemplary service to the Louisiana Senate as dietician and executive chef.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its many thanks to Ms. Bev for her graciousness, care, kindness, and southern hospitality that she has conveyed to those she served so well throughout her tenure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Beverly Walton.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE