

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 71

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Lagniappe Bakehouse on being named one of the best bakeries in the United States by *The New York Times* and its chef, Kaitlin Guerin, on being named a finalist for the 2025 James Beard Award® for Emerging Chef.

WHEREAS, Lagniappe Bakehouse, a black-owned bakery located in Central City, New Orleans, has achieved national acclaim by being named one of the 22 best bakeries in the United States by *The New York Times*; and

WHEREAS, the bakery was founded in September 2024, by New Orleans native, Kaitlin Guerin, and her partner, Lino Asana, who have together cultivated a unique and celebrated culinary establishment; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Guerin discovered her passion for pastry and baking while working in restaurants in San Francisco while pursuing a performing arts career and she was inspired to pursue formal culinary education and training in Michelin-starred restaurants in Copenhagen and the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, while in New Orleans during the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Guerin launched a home-based bakery that quickly attracted a loyal following and ultimately culminated in the opening of Lagniappe Bakehouse; and

WHEREAS, *The New York Times* has recognized Lagniappe Bakehouse for its innovative approach to baking and for honoring black history through its unique and culturally significant offerings; and

WHEREAS, the bakery's signature pastry, the "Vaucroissant," is a sausage-filled lattice croissant which pays tribute to the rich heritage of New Orleans by incorporating Creole hot sausage from the iconic, black-owned Vaucresson Sausage Co. of the historic 7th Ward Neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Lagniappe Bakehouse continues to honor black history and culinary traditions through its baked goods including toffee cookies made with benne seeds, an ingredient brought to the Americas by enslaved Africans; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Guerin's work has been praised by *The New York Times* for creating pastries that are not only technically masterful but also engage in meaningful dialogue with black history and culture, and further elevating the culinary landscape of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Guerin has been named a finalist for the prestigious 2025 James Beard Award® for Emerging Chef, recognizing her outstanding talent, creativity, and cultural contribution to American cuisine.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Lagniappe Bakehouse on being named one of the best bakeries in the United States by *The New York Times* and its chef, Kaitlin Guerin, on being named a finalist for the 2025 James Beard Award® for Emerging Chef.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Chef Kaitlin Guerin.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE