

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY SENATOR JENKINS

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Chef Niematulai DiGrazia for her culinary contributions to the state of Louisiana.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Niematulai DiGrazia, a nationally-renowned chef, for her culinary
3 contributions to the state of Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, Niematulai DiGrazia, a native of Sierra Leone, West Africa, and now
5 a resident of Louisiana, began her culinary journey inspired by her mother's resourceful
6 approach to preparing fresh meals with limited resources, instilling in her a deep
7 understanding of food as a symbol of love, resilience, and community; and

8 WHEREAS, this early foundation has profoundly shaped Chef DiGrazia, allowing
9 her to infuse her work with cultural authenticity and purpose while sharing the rich traditions
10 of West Africa alongside the many flavors of Louisiana; and

11 WHEREAS, her entrepreneurial vision along with her culinary expertise led to the
12 creation of RNL's Cookery Corner, an Afro-Fusion food truck, which later evolved into a
13 permanent brick-and-mortar establishment, Niema's Cookery Corner, reflecting both her
14 innovation and the strong community support for her culinary contributions; and

15 WHEREAS, Chef DiGrazia has been recognized for her excellence and influence,
16 including being named in "Chefs to Watch 2022" by *Southern Living* magazine and being
17 honored as one of north Louisiana's Best Chefs in 2019 by the Prize Foundation, affirming
18 her status as a leading figure in the culinary landscape of Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, Chef DiGrazia has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to
2 elevating the culinary identity of Shreveport-Bossier and northwest Louisiana on national
3 platforms; and

4 WHEREAS, through her appearances and achievements on nationally recognized
5 culinary programs, including "Beat Bobby Flay", "Fight Like a Lion", "Chef's Grudge
6 Match", "So Sous Me", and "Chopped", Chef DiGrazia has consistently showcased the rich
7 traditions, innovation, and cultural depth of Louisiana cuisine; and

8 WHEREAS, Chef DiGrazia has further distinguished herself through her service as
9 a culinary ambassador, having prepared and presented cuisine for members of the Louisiana
10 Senate and other civic leaders, thereby strengthening connections between culture,
11 governance, and community pride; and

12 WHEREAS, her journey to becoming a thriving culinary entrepreneur in Louisiana
13 stands as a testament to Chef DiGrazia's perseverance, innovation, and the powerful role of
14 cultural heritage in shaping communities in Louisiana.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
16 does hereby commend and express deep appreciation for the ongoing work as a culinary
17 ambassador contributing to Louisiana's ongoing legacy as a culinary destination, Chef
18 Niematulai DiGrazia for her culinary contributions to the state of Louisiana.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Chef
20 Niematulai DiGrazia.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof
or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

SR 56 Original

DIGEST
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