

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 108

BY SENATOR JENKINS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Designates Sunday, May 10, 2026, in honor of Eddie Eugene Hughes, and the "Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival Day".

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize Eddie Eugene Hughes and his culinary legacy, bestowed upon the city of
3 Shreveport, which created the "Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival Day" event.

4 WHEREAS, Eddie Eugene Hughes, alongside his wife Lois Bryant-Hughes and their
5 children: Geno, Ora, and Mavice, founded Eddie's Seafood and Soul Food Restaurant in
6 1978 at the corner of Hollywood Avenue and Union Avenue in Shreveport, creating a
7 family-owned establishment that became a cornerstone of food, fellowship,
8 entrepreneurship, and community service; and

9 WHEREAS, the Shreveport-style stuffed shrimp gained regional and statewide
10 recognition through the historic Freeman & Harris Cafe in downtown Shreveport, where
11 legendary culinary pioneer Eddie Eugene Hughes was widely credited as one of the original
12 developers and early innovators of the renowned dish, helping establish a lasting legacy
13 within Louisiana cuisine and African American culinary history; and

14 WHEREAS, the Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival represents a unique cultural
15 celebration rooted in a culinary tradition, highlighting a signature seafood delicacy that has
16 become a symbol of Shreveport pride, heritage, and community identity; and

17 WHEREAS, Eddie's Seafood and Soul Food Restaurant has achieved a remarkable
18 milestone, celebrating forty-eight years as one of Louisiana's oldest continuously family-

1 owned and operated restaurant establishment, serving generations of citizens and visitors
2 with excellence, hospitality, and tradition; and

3 WHEREAS, the festival, developed through the efforts of the Eddie G. Hughes
4 Foundation and supported by community partners, businesses, organizations, and citizens,
5 reflects a shared commitment to preserving local culture, honoring mothers and families,
6 uplifting future generations, and strengthening the spirit of Shreveport through collaboration
7 and community investment; and

8 WHEREAS, the Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival serves not only as a celebration
9 of food and culture, but also as an opportunity to promote community unity, tourism, health
10 awareness, education, and positive fellowship throughout the city of Shreveport and Caddo
11 Parish, while supporting scholarships and charitable initiatives benefitting local students and
12 families; and

13 WHEREAS, the annual Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival will be celebrated on
14 Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, 2026, with opening ceremonies beginning at 11:11 am at
15 Festival Plaza in Downtown Shreveport, bringing together residents and visitors alike for a
16 day dedicated to celebration, heritage, and community pride.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
18 does hereby designate Sunday, May 10, 2026, as "Shreveport Stuffed Shrimp Festival Day"
19 and does hereby recognize and commend the outstanding legacy and contributions of Eddie
20 Eugene Hughes, the Hughes family, and all those who continue to preserve, promote, and
21 celebrate this treasured culinary and cultural tradition that remains an important part of the
22 history and identity of the city of Shreveport and the state of Louisiana.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Eddie
24 Eugene Hughes' family through Ms. Thigpen.

