

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 305

BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOX

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Chris Hannah for his contributions to the American bar industry and North American cocktail culture

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Chris Hannah for his contributions to the American bar industry and North
3 American cocktail culture.

4 WHEREAS, Chris Hannah is based in New Orleans, a city synonymous with the
5 birthplace of the cocktail, and is one of the defining figures of modern American cocktail
6 culture; and

7 WHEREAS, Chris is a bartender whose influence is rooted in precision, restraint, and
8 deep historical knowledge, and he has spent more than two decades refining a style that
9 honors tradition while maintaining a quietly contemporary quality; and

10 WHEREAS, Chris had humble beginnings in the hospitality sector; he worked as a
11 dishwasher at Locke's Point, a bar in North Carolina, and subsequently spent six years doing
12 line work; and

13 WHEREAS, Chris rose to prominence at the French 75 Bar inside Arnaud's, where
14 he helped transform the bar into a national benchmark for classic cocktail execution; the bar
15 earned a James Beard Foundation Award for Outstanding Bar Program during his tenure,
16 which cemented his reputation as a leading force in the cocktail industry; and

17 WHEREAS, Chris's work at the French 75 Bar was defined by his unwavering
18 commitment to balance, technique, and hospitality, qualities that have become hallmarks of
19 his career; and

20 WHEREAS, Chris's bartending philosophy focuses on the revival and refinement of
21 historic drinks while maintaining the integrity of icons like the sazerac and French 75; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2019, Chris co-founded Jewel of the South, a bar and restaurant that
2 quickly earned international acclaim and enjoys a near-permanent ranking in both The
3 World's 50 Best Bars and North America's 50 Best Bars lists; he and his team's authentic
4 approach to true Southern-style service earned the bar the Michter's Art of Hospitality
5 Award in 2024; and

6 WHEREAS, Chris was named the 2022 Spirited Awards U.S. Bartender of the Year,
7 and he most recently received the Roku Industry Icon Award as part of North America's 50
8 Best Bars 2026; and

9 WHEREAS, Chris Hannah is a titan of the hospitality and cocktail industries and is
10 most deserving of recognition for his outstanding career.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
12 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Chris Hannah for his contributions to the
13 American bar industry and North American cocktail culture and does hereby extend sincere
14 wishes that he remain prosperous in all of his endeavors.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HR 305 Original

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