

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 305

BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOX

A RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, in 2019, Chris co-founded Jewel of the South, a bar and restaurant that quickly earned international acclaim and enjoys a near-permanent ranking in both The

World's 50 Best Bars and North America's 50 Best Bars lists; he and his team's authentic approach to true Southern-style service earned the bar the Michter's Art of Hospitality Award in 2024; and

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

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

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES