### Regular Session, 2013

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 186

### BY REPRESENTATIVES HARRISON AND ST. GERMAIN

# COMMENDATIONS: Commends Jesse Dugas on his fifty years of service to his community and the state of Louisiana

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commend Mr. Jesse T. Dugas, "Mr. Jesse", of Paincourtville on his fifty years of service
3	to his community, the parishes around his home, and his state and for his efforts to
4	preserve a way of life in South Louisiana through Cajun cooking and self-sacrifice
5	for the good of the community.
6	WHEREAS, Jesse T. Dugas was born in Paincourtville, Louisiana, on March 14,
7	1928, the son of Joseph Clete Dugas and Nellie Florena Daigle Dugas, where he grew up in
8	a household of twelve children surrounded by ten brothers – Harold "Pete", Lloyd, Roland
9	"Butch", Clay, Alvin "Jack", Percy "Mickey", Patrick, Lynn, Wilton "Tony", and Raymond,
10	and his sister Gladys; and
11	WHEREAS, Mr. Jesse, along with his brothers, grew up in the sugarcane fields of
12	Assumption, Ascension, and Iberville parishes where he became a lifelong sugarcane farmer;
13	and
14	WHEREAS, on February 3, 1951, Mr. Jesse married the love of his life, Margarite
15	Hebert Dugas, and although they never had children of their own, they helped to raise many
16	of their nieces and nephews as the Dugas family grew and worked in the cane fields; and
17	WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, Mr. Jesse joined the Paincourtville Volunteer Fire
18	Department where it quickly became obvious that he had a zest and a gift for cooking,
19	preparing box dinners to sell to help defray the expenses of the volunteer fire department;
20	and

1 WHEREAS, the box dinners soon gave way to cooking for fundraisers hosted by 2 various nonprofit organizations in the three parish area; and

3 WHEREAS, his cooking grew to the point where Mr. Jesse needed help and formed 4 a group of cooks called the "Cajun Chefs", including Chris Clement, Prosper Toups, Sidney 5 Cavalier, Jeffery Simoneaux, Dolese Simoneaux, David Boudreaux, Jay Dugas, Kerry 6 Dugas, Lynn Dugas, Frank Newchurch, Phillip "Scrap" Newchurch, Bill Newchurch, Russell 7 Giroir, Earl Matherne, Kye Rodrigue, Arthur Landry, Jimmy Gravois, Harold Harris, 8 Delores Naquin, men and women who happily and willingly gave of their time, their talents, 9 and their efforts to prepare Cajun dining delights to assist in charity fundraising throughout 10 South Louisiana and beyond; and

11 WHEREAS, the Cajun Chefs have prepared food for golf tournaments organized to 12 raise funds for the Children's Miracle Network, the Our Lady of the Lake Hospital, various 13 American Legion organizations, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Hurricane Katrina victims, 14 and, in July of 1996, the group was even invited to Washington, D.C., to cook for 15 Congressman Billy Tauzin's biannual "Cajun Family Day" in our nation's capital; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Jesse and the Cajun Chefs also cooked for six Louisiana governors: 17 John McKeithen, Edwin Edwards, Dave Treen, Buddy Roemer, Mike Foster, and Kathleen 18 Blanco; and

19 WHEREAS, while remaining humble and unassuming about his efforts on behalf of 20 his community, Mr. Jesse has been recognized by many organizations for his charitable 21 efforts, including being named Outstanding Citizen of Assumption Parish in 1995 and being 22 inducted into the Tri-Parish (Terrebonne, Lafourche, and Assumption) Hall of Fame in 2006; 23 and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Jesse will always be remembered as a special person, a loving and 25 giving person who shared his love of life, family, and community through volunteering to 26 cook for fairs, charities, schools, and government functions and Mr. Jesse will also be 27 remembered holding a Rotel highball can as he cooked for the family and community that 28 he loved so much.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Mr. Jesse T. Dugas, "Mr. Jesse", of Paincourtville on his fifty years of service to 30

- 1 his community, the parishes around his home, and his state and for his efforts to preserve a
- 2 way of life in South Louisiana through Cajun cooking and self-sacrifice for the good of the
- 3 community.
- 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Mr.
- 5 Jesse Dugas.

## 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)]

#### Harrison

HCR No. 186

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