

2019 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 207

BY SENATOR LONG

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Beverly Walton for her years of public service as dietician and chef for the Senate.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Beverly Walton on thirty-eight years of extraordinary service to the Senate of
3 the Legislature of Louisiana as its only dietician and chef and to congratulate her
4 upon her retirement.

5 WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
6 does hereby extend its thanks and gratitude to Mrs. Beverly Walton, the Senate's executive
7 chef for thirty-eight years; and

8 WHEREAS, during that time, Ms. Bev, as she is affectionately addressed, has
9 planned and prepared thousands of meals that have filled the gastronomic needs of senators,
10 governors, visiting dignitaries, and legislative staff; and

11 WHEREAS, her culinary skill runs the gamut of breakfast, lunch, and dinner for any
12 and all occasions that may arise, including Christmas parties and inauguration galas; and

13 WHEREAS, she has something tasty for every palate and will fulfill special requests,
14 within reason; and

15 WHEREAS, early in her career, Ms. Bev had the opportunity to prepared haute
16 cuisine with renowned master chefs such as Chef Goffredo Fraccaro and Chef Chris
17 Kerageorgiou of La Provence French Restaurant in Lacombe and the king of Creole cooking,
18 Chef Paul Prudomme; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1981, Ms. Bev was approached by her friend, Sylvia Duke, to operate
2 the new Senate dining room during legislative sessions and she accepted the offer; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1988, Ms. Bev was delighted to cook for actor Paul Newman who
4 portrayed Governor Earl K. Long in the movie, *Blaze*, filmed at the state capitol; and

5 WHEREAS, she has been in food preparation for many years and often would
6 experiment with unusual recipes at home before preparing them for senators and staff; and

7 WHEREAS, every year she trains new crew members for the kitchen; Debra Russell,
8 Robyn Eagan, and Cliff Chaney are always at the ready to assist as servers and sous chefs
9 and to make sure that everything goes as planned; and

10 WHEREAS, during one session, Ms. Bev was hospitalized for nine days; during her
11 convalescence, she would call, dictate the grocery list, and give special preparation
12 instructions if necessary; and

13 WHEREAS, with legislators from both north and south Louisiana, it was sometimes
14 quite difficult to plan menus and food choices that suited so many different tastes; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Bev has generously shared her favorite recipes for salad dressings
16 like raspberry vinaigrette, for desserts like Lemon Sin, Butterfinger Cake, and Blueberry
17 Banana Pie, and for entrees like Crawfish Pie, Chicken Florentine, and her famous Chicken
18 Salad that is like manna from heaven; and

19 WHEREAS, although Ms. Bev has been slowed a bit by bothersome aches and pains,
20 she is quite determined to finish her term along with Senate President John Alario; and

21 WHEREAS, in retirement, Ms. Bev will enjoy cooking with her husband, Ronald;
22 their two daughters, Rhonda Barnett and Rebecca Hickey; and five grandchildren and two
23 great-grandchildren.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
25 does hereby commend Beverly Walton for her years of exemplary service to the Louisiana
26 Senate as dietician and executive chef.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does
28 hereby extend its many thanks to Ms. Bev for her graciousness, care, kindness, and southern
29 hospitality that she has conveyed to those she served so well throughout her tenure.

