

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER AND GAROFALO AND SENATORS ALARIO AND
PETERSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Gerard "Jerry" Christopher Amato, chef and co-owner of Mother's Restaurant in New Orleans.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana learned of the passing of Jerry Amato on March 12, 2016, at the age of sixty-five as a result of cancer; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Amato, a New Orleans native and chef and co-owner of the nationally known Mother's Restaurant, began his career in the hospitality industry as a restaurant valet when he was a freshman at St. Paul's School; and

WHEREAS, he attended the University of Southern Mississippi to study business and was later certified as a chef through the culinary arts program at Delgado Community College; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, he and his brother, John, purchased Mother's Restaurant from the founders', Simon and Mary "Mother" Landry's, sons, Jacque and Eddie; and

WHEREAS, patrons of Mother's Restaurant range from dock workers to professionals; and

WHEREAS, eighty percent of the staff at Mother's Restaurant have at least five years of employment and fifty percent of the back-of-the-house staff have at least seventeen years of service to the establishment; and

WHEREAS, diners near and far love the made from scratch quality of the food from Mother's Restaurant, particularly the homemade biscuits, gumbo, jambalaya, and the unique sandwiches such as the John G. and the Ferdi; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Mr. Amato was named Restaurateur of the Year by the Louisiana Restaurant Association, the association's highest honor; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Bread for the World, New Orleans Chapter, awarded him the Lindy Boggs Hunger Awareness Award; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Brenda Maher Amato; his sisters, Judge Nancy Amato Konrad and Lydia Delores Amato; his brothers, John and James Amato; and

WHEREAS, those who knew Jerry Amato would say he resisted fads and trends and remained true to the traditions that made New Orleans' home cooking exactly what it is, unpretentious home cooking.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Gerard "Jerry" Christopher Amato, chef and co-owner of Mother's Restaurant in New Orleans; does hereby recognize and record for posterity his outstanding achievements and singular contributions in the culinary field and in life; and does hereby extend true appreciation for his enduring legacy that will forever be a source of deep pride and honor for his family, his friends, the staff and patrons of Mother's Restaurant, the city of New Orleans, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family Gerard "Jerry" Christopher Amato.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE