

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 77

BY REPRESENTATIVE LARVADAIN

A RESOLUTION

To commend Patricia Cooke on being the Louisiana Restaurant Association Education Foundation 2024 ProStart Educator of Excellence.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Restaurant Association (LRA) Education Foundation has selected Patricia Cooke as its 2024 ProStart Educator of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, ProStart is a two-year restaurant management and culinary arts curriculum administered by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation in all 50 states and Guam; ProStart is designed to attract young people to rewarding careers in the restaurant industry; and

WHEREAS, the LRA Education Foundation administers ProStart in nearly 60 high schools in Louisiana, with more than 2,000 juniors and seniors participating in this dynamic course; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Cooke has inspired students in her ProStart classes for more than twenty years at Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Cooke's influence and guidance have resulted in many of her students starting their own food service and catering businesses and being employed in many Baton Rouge area restaurants and hotels; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Cooke also serves as a mentor to her peer ProStart educators across Louisiana, sharing her knowledge and expertise to improve ProStart for all Louisiana students; and

WHEREAS, to prepare her for her ProStart educator journey, Patricia Cooke spent a decade in the restaurant industry as a kitchen and operations manager for Ryan's Steakhouse and Applebee's; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Cooke attributes her restaurant experience to making the transition from industry to the classroom more accessible, as her industry experience was largely centered around staff training; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Cooke was recognized by the LRA Education Foundation on March 6, 2024, at the annual "Serving the Future-Celebrating Careers in Hospitality" event in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Cooke will be considered for the NRA Educational Foundation's National ProStart Educator of Excellence Award which will be presented on April 27, 2024, in Baltimore, Maryland.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Patricia Cooke on being the Louisiana Restaurant Association Education Foundation 2024 ProStart Educator of Excellence and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that she continue to prosper in all of her endeavors.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES