

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVE LORUSSO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize the month of April as Louisiana Crawfish Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, for more than four hundred years, fishermen have been harvesting the bounty of seafood in the Gulf of Mexico and Louisiana's inland waterways; and

WHEREAS, one out of every seventy jobs in Louisiana is related to the seafood industry, which has an economic impact of over \$2.4 billion annually for the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has over one thousand crawfish farmers and more than eight hundred commercial fishermen who catch wild crawfish; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana leads the nation, producing more than ninety percent of the domestic crop of crawfish; and

WHEREAS, the annual yield of crawfish harvested each year in Louisiana ranges from 120 million pounds to 150 million pounds, and the annual economic impact of crawfish is more than 300 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, crawfish farming in Louisiana has developed into the largest freshwater crustacean aquaculture industry in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana crawfish is most abundant during the spring, and boiled crawfish is a Cajun tradition that honors Louisiana's Cajun French heritage; and

WHEREAS, crawfish and seafood have a strong economic and cultural role in the lives of Louisianans, and this role is typified by family owned restaurants in Louisiana, such as Deanie's Seafood Restaurants and Seafood Market, where Louisiana's culture of strong family and community ties combines with culinary heritage and traditions; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the month of April as Louisiana Crawfish Awareness Month to raise awareness to the importance of the crawfish industry, to recognize the fishermen of Louisiana, and to celebrate Louisiana's Cajun French heritage.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the month of April as Louisiana Crawfish Awareness Month; does hereby recognize and commend the farmers and fishermen who make this industry possible; and does hereby celebrate Louisiana crawfish as an integral part of the economy and culture of the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the owner of Deanie's Seafood Restaurants and Seafood Market.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE