

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

BY SENATORS WHEAT AND MIZELL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize Monday, March 16, 2026, as Amite Oyster Festival Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and to commend the Amite Oyster Festival for its historical, cultural, and economic significance to the city of Amite, and Tangipahoa Parish for its enduring legacy since 1976.

WHEREAS, the Amite Oyster Festival began as a one-day event known as "Amite Oyster Day" on March 20, 1976, held at the Tangipahoa Parish Fair Grounds; and

WHEREAS, the festival was created to celebrate the oyster industry, which began significantly contributing to the economy of the city of Amite and surrounding areas in the 1950s; and

WHEREAS, the growth of the local oyster industry is largely attributed to local families whose hard work and dedication established oyster harvesting, processing, and distribution as a vital economic driver in Tangipahoa Parish; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Amite Oyster Festival has evolved from a single-day celebration into a major multiday festival and spring tradition that attracts residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the festival features a wide array of activities, including the preparation and enjoyment of oysters in various forms, live musical entertainment, a carnival, parade, vendor exhibits, and community gatherings; and

WHEREAS, a hallmark of the festival is its annual pageant, which has crowned a festival queen each year since 1976, with many local families proudly passing down participation in the royal court through multiple generations; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Miss Amite Oyster Festival Queen, Sarah Katherine Stant, was born into the oyster industry and is honored to be this year's ambassador of the festival and the values it upholds; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Amite Oyster Festival King, Douglas Kent, was selected for his dedication to the festival and to the city of Amite; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Amite Oyster Festival Pearl, Amy Kent, was selected for her community involvement and commitment to the festival and all of its events; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Amite Oyster Festival Grand Marshal, Carla Tate, was selected by the board for her dedication and love not only for the Amite Oyster Festival, but for the entire parish of Tangipahoa; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Teen Miss Amite Oyster Festival Queen, Julia van Mullem, is honored to be a representative of the festival; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 chairman, Dawson Primes, has demonstrated leadership and direction for a successful festival; and

WHEREAS, the Amite Oyster Festival serves as a celebration of the region's local waters, cuisine, culture, and heritage, while honoring the families and traditions that helped shape the community; and

WHEREAS, the festival continues to play a significant role in fostering community pride, preserving local history, and promoting tourism and economic activity in Tangipahoa Parish; and

WHEREAS, the fiftieth Amite Oyster Festival will be celebrated March 20 through 22, 2026, in Amite, Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Monday, March 16, 2026, as Amite Oyster Festival Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and commends the Amite Oyster Festival for its historical, cultural, and economic significance to the city of Amite, and Tangipahoa Parish upon its fiftieth anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 2026 chairman of the Amite Oyster Festival, Dawson Primes.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES