

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHEXNAYDER AND PRICE

COMMENDATIONS: Recognizes St. James Parish as the Perique Tobacco Capital of the World

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize St. James Parish as the Perique Tobacco Capital of the World.

3 WHEREAS, St. James Parish is one of Louisiana's nineteen original parishes created
4 on March 31, 1807, by an act of the territorial legislature; and

5 WHEREAS, St. James Parish is part of the Mississippi River Acadian Coast, which
6 was settled by Acadians in 1776; and

7 WHEREAS, St. James Parish is often called the Gem of the Mississippi River, and
8 its people pride themselves on their unique culture and heritage; and

9 WHEREAS, St. James Parish is the only cultivation site in the world for Perique
10 tobacco, a rare leaf type on which a special pressure-fermentation process is used; it was
11 introduced in 1824 by Acadian exile and farmer Pierre Chenet, nicknamed "Perique"; and

12 WHEREAS, Coralie Decareau, the granddaughter of "Perique" Chenet, and Celestin
13 Poche wed in 1829 and planted the generational seeds that grew into a rich family tradition
14 of cultivating and processing Perique tobacco to this day; and

15 WHEREAS, often considered the truffle of pipe tobaccos, Perique tobacco is used
16 as an ingredient in nearly a hundred different brand-name pipe tobaccos around the world;
17 it is coveted for its strong, powerful, sweet, and fruity aroma, and St. James Parish is the
18 world's sole source of Perique tobacco; and

19 WHEREAS, the wonderful properties of Perique tobacco allow for a variety of uses,
20 including in cigarettes, cigars, and a French liquor; and

1 WHEREAS, while most Louisiana Perique tobacco is cultivated by the Poche,
2 Martin, LeBlanc, Roussel, and Gravois farming families in or near Grand Pointe, Louisiana,
3 fewer than fifty acres of this crop remain in cultivation; this special tobacco's unique roots
4 in this robust and fertile ground make St. James Parish worthy of recognition as the Perique
5 Tobacco Capital of the World.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize St. James Parish as the Perique Tobacco
8 Capital of the World and does hereby accord the farmers of this exclusive crop and its
9 related industries in St. James Parish the honor and esteem they are due.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
11 to St. James Parish President Timmy Roussel and the St. James Parish Council.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 3 Original

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Schexnayder

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