

By: Representatives Creekmore IV, Hawkins

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MELISSA COOKSTON FOR HER  
2 OUTSTANDING SUCCESS AS A RESTAURATEUR, CHEF, AND AUTHOR.

3 WHEREAS, born and raised in the Mississippi Delta, Melissa  
4 Cookston is a trailblazing food entrepreneur smoking the  
5 competition; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Cookston is a seven-time world barbecue  
7 champion; owner of Memphis BBQ Company in Horn Lake, Mississippi;  
8 an author of two cookbooks, "Smokin in the Boy's Room" and  
9 "Smokin' Hot in the South;" and a celebrated southern Delta chef;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, recognized nationally, Mrs. Cookston has appeared on  
12 national news and talk shows, as well as cooking shows and Food  
13 Network, and recently served as a judge on season one of the  
14 Netflix original series "The American Barbecue Showdown", and also  
15 served as a judge on season four of Destination America's "BBQ  
16 Pitmasters," and was named one of America's most influential BBQ  
17 Pitmasters and personalities by Fox News in 2015; and



18           WHEREAS, dedicated to serving others, Mrs. Cookston recently  
19 started the World Junior BBQ League, a nonprofit organization,  
20 with a mission to engage kids who are 14 to 18 years of age, or  
21 enrolled in Grade 9 through Grade 12 equivalent curriculum, in  
22 barbecue competitions to teach them life skills such as  
23 leadership, teamwork, strategic planning, organizational skills,  
24 time management, work ethic, emotional focus within a competitive  
25 environment, and culinary skills while participating in a  
26 wholesome and fun competition; and

27           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
28 and commend outstanding Mississippians, especially those such as  
29 Melissa Cookston, whose hard work, philanthropy, and  
30 entrepreneurial spirit brings honor to the profession of culinary  
31 arts, the Mississippi Delta, and to the State of Mississippi:

32           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
33 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
34 THEREIN, That we do hereby recognize and commend Melissa Cookston  
35 for her outstanding success as a restaurateur, chef, and author.

36           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
37 furnished to Melissa Cookston and to the members of the Capitol  
38 Press Corps.

