

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 169

*Designating May through October, in 2016 and in each succeeding year, as Virginia Barbecue Season.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 26, 2016

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 2016

WHEREAS, pull tender, mouthwatering, and delicious southern barbecue has a long and illustrious history in Virginia, having first been cooked in the early 17th century through a collaboration between European colonists, Virginia's Native Americans, and African Americans; and

WHEREAS, those early Virginians worked together to produce the gift of barbecue, which would become known as one of the "ancient and honorable institutions of Virginia"; and

WHEREAS, beginning in May of each year, early Virginians entertained family and friends with barbecues and nearly every Saturday there would be a barbecue somewhere in each county until frost arrived in October; and

WHEREAS, President James Madison, Father of the Constitution, was known to have a well-used Virginia barbecue pit on his south lawn where he entertained guests, and President George Washington, the Father of our Country, was very fond of old Virginia barbecue; and

WHEREAS, these facts demonstrate that barbecue is "essential to any public celebration among the descendants of the Ancient Dominion"; and

WHEREAS, Virginians across the Commonwealth still enjoy barbecue to this day on many occasions; and

WHEREAS, Virginia barbecue restaurants, eateries, and pit masters have been recognized around the world for their culinary barbecue creations; and

WHEREAS, Virginia barbecue is important to state tourism and the economy; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Commonwealth extend its famous Old Dominion hospitality and invite everyone to enjoy delicious Virginia barbecue; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate May through October, in 2016 and in each succeeding year, as Virginia Barbecue Season; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That barbecue lovers are encouraged to celebrate Virginia Barbecue Season by enjoying their favorite barbecue and barbecue establishments throughout the Commonwealth are encouraged to participate in the celebration of Virginia Barbecue Season; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to Eric Terry, president of the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, and Travel Association, and Rita D. McClenny, president and CEO of the Virginia Tourism Corporation, so that members of the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, and Travel Association and the Virginia Tourism Corporation may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this declaration and season on the General Assembly's website.

ENROLLED

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