

1 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 84**

2 (By Delegates J. Nelson, R. Smith, Caputo,
3 Tomblin, Iaquinta, Miley, Marcum, White,
4 Moore, Manchin and Andes)

5

6 Declaring the "pepperoni roll" to be the official State Food of
7 West Virginia.

8 WHEREAS, Often referred to as the "unofficial state food of
9 West Virginia," the simple-to-make pepperoni roll is more than the
10 sum of its parts, every single bite is filled with soft, warm bread
11 infused with flavor from the freshly cut, delicately seasoned
12 pepperoni; and

13 WHEREAS, Philadelphia may have its cheese steak and New York
14 its bagels, the pepperoni roll was first created in Fairmont,
15 around 1927 by Italian immigrant baker, Giuseppe "Joseph" Argiro,
16 and it should be no surprise that it quickly became a daily staple
17 for coal miners and struggling families; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1987 when the United States Department of
19 Agriculture proposed restrictions that threatened to put the
20 family-owned bakeries of pepperoni rolls out of business, West
21 Virginia Pepperoni Roll producers contacted Senator Jay Rockefeller
22 who intervened and successfully saved the entire industry; and

23 WHEREAS, Today, the humble pepperoni roll is ubiquitous around
24 the mountain state and may be found in restaurants, bakeries,
25 convenience stores and family kitchens, eaten cold or hot, this

1 simple food continues to sustain West Virginians from every walk of
2 life, coal miners, artists, business people and students; and

3 WHEREAS, Country Club, Tomarro's and Chico's Dairy are only a
4 few names that may not be in business today if the proposed change
5 had been implemented. The pepperoni roll is as popular as ever and
6 is enjoyed everyday throughout West Virginia and the states that
7 our bakeries supply; therefore, be it

8 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

9 That the Legislature hereby recognizes the significance of the
10 "pepperoni roll" in the state and by so doing declares that the
11 "pepperoni roll" is the official State Food of West Virginia; and,
12 be it

13 *Further Resolved,* That all citizens of West Virginia to join
14 in recognizing the value and importance of pepperoni rolls in West
15 Virginia; and, be it

16 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates,
17 forward certified copies of this resolution to the pepperoni roll
18 bakeries of West Virginia.