UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): January 15, 2018

THE CHEFS' WAREHOUSE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-35249 (Commission File Number)

20-3031526 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

100 East Ridge Road Ridgefield, Connecticut (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

06877 (Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (203) 894-1345

Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- £ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- E Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- £ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- £ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On January 15, 2018, The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), entered into an agreement (the "Cooperation Agreement") with Legion Partners, L.P. I, Legion Partners, L.P. II, Legion Partners Special Opportunities, L.P. VII, Legion Partners, LLC, Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC, Legion Partners Holdings, LLC, Christopher S. Kiper, and Raymond White (collectively, the "Investor Group" and each individually, an "Investor"). As of the date of the Cooperation Agreement, the Investor Group has represented to the Company that it is deemed to beneficially own shares of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), totaling, in the aggregate, 1,704,239 shares or approximately 6.0% of the Common Stock outstanding as of January 15, 2018.

The Cooperation Agreement provides, among other things, that the size of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") will be increased from ten to twelve members and that Ms. Christina Carroll and Mr. David E. Schreibman (or their replacements, collectively, the "New Directors") will be appointed to the Board on or prior to February 18, 2018 and will be nominated as a candidate for reelection to the Board at the Company's 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders. The Cooperation Agreement also provides that Mr. Schreibman or his replacement will be appointed to the Compensation and Human Capital Committee of the Board, Ms. Carroll or her replacement will be appointed to the Audit Committee of the Board, and one of the New Directors will be appointed to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board. In addition, pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, the size of the Board will be reduced from twelve to eleven members immediately following the Company's 2018 annual meeting of stockholders and from eleven to ten members immediately following the Company's 2019 annual meeting of stockholders (and the Board will not be increased to more than ten members through the expiration of the Standstill Period (as defined below)).

Under the terms of the Cooperation Agreement, the Investor Group has agreed to certain standstill provisions with respect to the Investor Group's actions with regard to the Company and the Common Stock for the duration of the Standstill Period which is defined in the Cooperation Agreement as the period commencing on the date of the Cooperation Agreement and ending ten calendar days prior to the expiration of the advance notice period for the submission by stockholders of director nominations for consideration at the Company's 2020 annual meeting of stockholders (as set forth in the advance notice provisions of the Company's Restated Bylaws). The Company and the Investor Group have also agreed to mutual non-disparagement provisions.

In addition, pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, the Investor Group has agreed that at each annual and special meeting of stockholders held prior to the expiration of the Standstill Period, the Investor Group will cause all shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by each Investor and their affiliates to be counted as present for purposes of establishing a quorum and to be voted in favor of (i) each of the directors nominated by the Board and recommended by the Board in the election of directors (and not in favor of any other nominees to serve on the Board), and (ii) except with respect to certain extraordinary matters, each of the stockholder proposals listed on the Company's proxy card or voting instruction form as identified in the Company's proxy statement in accordance with the Board's recommendations. In addition, except with respect to certain extraordinary matters, the Investor Group has agreed not to execute any proxy card or related voting instruction form other than the proxy card and related voting instruction form being solicited by or on behalf of the Board. In the event that Institutional Shareholders Services or Glass Lewis & Co., LLC recommends otherwise with respect to any proposal (other than the election of directors), each of the Investors will have the right to vote "Abstain" with respect to such proposal.

Under the terms of the Cooperation Agreement, the Company has also agreed to reimburse the Investor Group for its reasonable documented out-of-pocket third party expenses, including legal fees and expenses, as actually incurred in connection with the filing of a Schedule 13D amendment in connection with the Cooperation Agreement and the negotiation and execution of the Cooperation Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

The foregoing description of the Cooperation Agreement is qualified in its entirely by reference to the full text of the Cooperation Agreement, which is filed herewith as Exhibit 10.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

A copy of the press release issued by the Company on January 16, 2018 announcing the execution of the Cooperation Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The information in this Item 7.01 of this Form 8-K shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

- 10.1 Cooperation Agreement dated January 15, 2018, among The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc., Legion Partners, L.P. I, Legion Partners, L.P. II, Legion Partners Special Opportunities, L.P. VII, Legion Partners, LLC, Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC, Legion Partners Holdings, LLC, Christopher S. Kiper, and Raymond White.
- 99.1 The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. Press Release, issued January 16, 2018, announcing the entry into the Cooperation Agreement.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE CHEFS' WAREHOUSE, INC.

By: /s/ Alexandros Aldous

Name: Alexandros Aldous

Title: General Counsel, Corporate Secretary &

Chief Government Relations Officer

Date: January 16, 2018

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

This COOPERATION AGREEMENT (the "<u>Agreement</u>"), dated as of January 15, 2018 is made and entered into by The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "<u>Company</u>") and Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("<u>Legion Partners</u>") and each of the other persons set forth on <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto (collectively with Legion Partners and together with any other Affiliates of Legion Partners who are or hereafter become beneficial owners of any shares of Common Stock (as defined below), the "<u>Investor Group</u>" and each individually, an "<u>Investor</u>").

WHEREAS, the Company and the Investor Group have engaged in discussions regarding the Company's board composition and its business, financial performance, and strategic plans;

WHEREAS, as of the date hereof, the Investor Group beneficially owns shares of the common stock of the Company, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock") totaling, in the aggregate, 1,704,239 shares or approximately 6.0% of the Common Stock outstanding as of the date hereof; and

WHEREAS, the Company and the Investor Group believe that the best interests of the Company and its stockholders (including the Investor Group) would be served at this time by, among other things, agreeing to appoint, subject to the terms and conditions herein, as independent directors Mr. David E. Schreibman and Ms. Christina Carroll (collectively, the "New Directors" and each, a "New Director") to the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") at the Nominating Meeting (as defined below), and by the Company and the Investor Group agreeing to the other covenants and agreements contained herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto, intending to be legally bound hereby, agree as follows:

1. Board Matters; Board Nominations; Board Policies Procedures.

(a) <u>Board Matters.</u> Prior to the date hereof, (i) the Nomination and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board (the "<u>Nominating Committee</u>") has reviewed and approved the qualifications of each New Director to serve as a member of the Board and (ii) the Board has confirmed that each New Director is "independent" as defined by the listing standards of The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("<u>NASDAQ</u>"). In connection with the foregoing, each New Director has provided to the Company information required to be or customarily disclosed by directors or director candidates in proxy statements or other filings under applicable law or stock exchange rules or listing standards, information in connection with assessing eligibility, independence and other criteria applicable to directors, and a fully completed, true and accurate copy of the Company's standard director questionnaire and other reasonable and customary director onboarding documentation. At a meeting of the Board (the "<u>Nominating Meeting</u>") expected to take place on or prior to February 18, 2018, the Company agrees that the Board and all applicable committees of the Board shall take all necessary actions to:

- (i) cause the Board to increase the size of its membership by two (2) no later than the time of the Nominating Meeting and to appoint each of the New Directors (or any Replacement pursuant to Section 1(d)) as a director of the Company effective as of the Nominating Meeting with a term expiring at the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders of the Company (the "2018 Annual Meeting");
- (ii) nominate each New Director (or any Replacement pursuant to <u>Section 1(d</u>) as a candidate for reelection to the Board at the 2018 Annual Meeting;
- (iii) cause the Board to reduce the size of the Board to eleven (11) immediately following the 2018 Annual Meeting and agree not to increase the size of the Board to more than eleven (11) directors through the 2019 Annual Meeting, and cause the Board to reduce the size of the Board to ten (10) immediately following the 2019 Annual Meeting and agree not to increase thereafter the size of the Board to more than ten (10) directors through the expiration of the Standstill Period; and
- (iv) nominate each New Director (or any Replacement pursuant to <u>Section 1(d)</u> as a candidate for reelection to the Board at the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders of the Company (the "<u>2019 Annual Meeting</u>").

If each of the New Directors is not appointed by February 18, 2018, the Company shall extend the deadline for properly presented stockholder proposals, including director nominations, for the 2018 Annual Meeting until the date each of the New Directors (or any Replacement pursuant to Section 1(d)), is appointed; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that if such New Director(s) have not been appointed by February 18, 2018 as a result of such New Director(s) being disabled or unwilling to serve as an independent director for any reason, then the Company shall not be required to extend the deadline for properly presented stockholder proposals so long as it is working in good faith with the Investor Group to mutually agree upon and appoint a Replacement pursuant to Section 1(d).

At the 2018 Annual Meeting and the 2019 Annual Meeting, the Company agrees to recommend, support and solicit proxies for the election of each New Director (or any Replacement pursuant to Section 1(d) in the same manner as the Company has supported its nominees up for election at prior annual meetings of stockholders at which the election of directors was uncontested. The Company agrees that each New Director shall receive (i) the same benefits of director and officer insurance, and any indemnity and exculpation arrangements available generally to the directors on the Board, (ii) the same compensation for his or her service as a director as the compensation received by other non-management directors on the Board, and (iii) such other benefits on the same basis as all other non-management directors on the Board, including, without limitation, having the Company (or legal counsel) prepare and file with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), at the Company's expense, any Forms 3, 4 and 5 under Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") that are required to be filed by each director of the Company.

- (b) <u>Board Policies and Procedures</u>. Each party acknowledges that each New Director (and any Replacement), upon election to the Board, shall be governed by all of the same policies, processes, procedures, codes, rules, standards, and guidelines applicable to members of the Board, including the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, and policies on insider trading, stock ownership, public disclosures and confidentiality, forms of which have been provided to each New Director in advance of the execution of this Agreement, and shall be required to strictly adhere to the Company's policies on confidentiality imposed on all members of the Board (including pursuant to the confidentiality agreement that each New Director or Replacement will be required to execute in connection with his or her appointment to the Board). Each New Director (and any Replacement) shall be required to provide the Company with such information as reasonably requested from all members of the Board as is required to be disclosed under applicable law or stock exchange regulations, in each case as promptly as necessary to enable the timely filing of the Company's proxy statement and other periodic reports with the SEC.
 - (c) <u>Company Termination Rights</u>. The Investor Group agrees as follows:
 - (i) each New Director (or any Replacement) will resign (and each New Director (or any Replacement) is hereby irrevocably deemed to have automatically resigned, with such resignation subject only to the Board accepting such resignation) and the Company's obligations under this Section 1 shall terminate effective immediately upon such time as: (x) any Investor or any Affiliate (as defined below) thereof submits a notice of a nomination of directors for election to the Board during the Standstill Period and (y) any Investor is otherwise found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated Section 3 hereof during the Standstill Period;
 - (ii) in the event the Investor Group ceases to beneficially own, in the aggregate, at least five percent (5.0%) of the outstanding Common Stock as of the date hereof, the Company shall only be required to nominate one of the New Directors (or any Replacement) for reelection at any subsequent annual meeting of the Company's stockholders and its obligation to nominate the other New Director (or any Replacement) for reelection at any subsequent annual meeting of the Company's stockholders shall terminate;
 - (iii) in the event the Investor Group ceases to beneficially own, in the aggregate, at least three percent (3.0%) of the outstanding Common Stock as of the date hereof, the Company's obligation to nominate each of the New Directors (or any Replacement) for reelection at any subsequent annual meeting of the Company's stockholders shall terminate; and
 - (iv) each New Director (or any Replacement) will resign (and each New Director (or any Replacement) is hereby irrevocably deemed to have automatically resigned, with such resignation subject only to the Board accepting such resignation) in the event such New Director (or any Replacement) ceases to be "independent" as defined by the listing standards of NASDAQ, such New Director becomes an officer, director, employee or Affiliate (as defined below) of any Investor, or such New Director receives compensation from the Investor Group; provided that the Investor Group shall retain its right to propose a Replacement pursuant to Section 1(d) hereof.

In furtherance of clause (i) and (iv) above, each New Director, as a condition to being nominated to the Board pursuant hereto, shall be required to execute an irrevocable advance letter of resignation in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u>.

- Replacements. If, from the date hereof until the expiration of the Standstill Period, either of the New Directors is unable or unwilling to serve as an independent director for any reason, the Investor Group shall have the right to propose a replacement (a "Replacement") with relevant financial and business experience, who qualifies as "independent" pursuant to NASDAQ's listing standards, who is not an officer, director, employee or Affiliate (as defined below) of any Investor and who does not receive compensation from the Investor Group, and whose qualifications are substantially similar to the New Director who is being replaced (and who satisfies Company policies applicable to all directors); provided, that the Investor Group's right to propose a Replacement pursuant to this Section 1(d) shall terminate with respect to one New Director when the Investor Group ceases to beneficially own, in the aggregate, at least five percent (5.0%) of the outstanding Common Stock as of the date hereof, and shall terminate with respect to both New Directors when the Investor Group ceases to beneficially own, in the aggregate, at least three percent (3.0%) of the outstanding Common Stock as of the date hereof. Subject to the written mutual agreement of the Company and the Investor Group, not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed, such Replacement shall be deemed to be a "New Director" for purposes hereof (it being understood that the Company and the Investor Group shall work together in good faith to mutually agree upon a Replacement meeting the standards described above). Any Replacement appointed to the Board in accordance with this Section 1(d) shall be appointed to any applicable committees of the Board of which the replaced director was a member immediately prior to such director's resignation or removal.
- (e) <u>Observer Rights</u>. During the period (the "<u>Observer Period</u>") commencing on the date hereof and ending concurrently with the appointment of each New Director at the Nominating Meeting, each New Director shall serve as an observer to the Board. Accordingly, with respect to meetings of the Board during the Observer Period, if any, (whether telephone or in-person), subject to the execution of a reasonable and customary confidentiality agreement between each New Director and the Company, each New Director will (i) receive copies of all notices and written information furnished to the Board, reasonably in advance of each meeting to the extent practicable, and (ii) be permitted to be present, but not vote or exercise any other rights of a Board member, at all meetings of the Board (whether by telephone or in person). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company reserves the right to exclude any New Director during the Observer Period from access to any material or meeting or any portion thereof to enable the Board to discuss matters relating to this Agreement and/or the relationship between the Company and the Investor Group.

- (f) <u>Committees</u>. The Company and the Investor Group agree that, concurrent with the appointment of the New Directors to the Board, the Board shall take such action as is necessary such that Mr. Schreibman be appointed to the Compensation and Human Capital Committee, Ms. Carroll be appointed to the Audit Committee, one of the New Directors be appointed to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and at least one of the New Directors be appointed to any new committee formed during the Standstill Period; provided that, with respect to such committee appointment, each New Director is and continues to remain eligible to serve as a member of such committee pursuant to applicable law and the rules of NASDAQ, if any, that are applicable to the composition of such committee.
- Annual Meetings. At each annual and special meeting of stockholders held prior to the expiration of the Standstill Period, each of the Investors agrees to (i) appear at such stockholders' meeting or otherwise cause all shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by each Investor and their respective Affiliates to be counted as present for purposes of establishing a quorum, (ii) vote, or cause to be voted, all shares of Common Stock beneficially owned by each Investor and their respective Affiliates on the Company's proxy card or voting instruction form in favor of (a) each of the directors nominated by the Board and recommended by the Board in the election of directors (and not in favor of any other nominees to serve on the Board), and (b) except with respect to an Extraordinary Matter or as otherwise set forth in this Section 2, each of the stockholder proposals listed on the Company's proxy card or voting instruction form as identified in the Company's proxy statement in accordance with the Board's recommendations, including in favor of all other matters recommended for stockholder approval by the Board, and (iii) except with respect to an Extraordinary Matter or as otherwise set forth in this Section 2, not execute any proxy card or voting instruction form in respect of such stockholders' meeting other than the proxy card and related voting instruction form being solicited by or on behalf of the Board; provided, however, in the event that Institutional Shareholders Services ("ISS") or Glass Lewis & Co., LLC ("Glass Lewis") recommends otherwise with respect to any proposal (other than the election of directors), each of the Investors shall be permitted to engage in nonpublic verbal discussions with the Company with respect to such ISS or Glass Lewis recommendations to the extent such discussions would not be reasonably expected to result in public disclosure for either party and each of the Investors shall have the right to vote "Abstain" with respect to such proposal; and provided, further, that with respect to any Extraordinary Matter, each of the Investors shall have the ability to vote freely. For purposes of this Section 2, an "Extraordinary Matter" means, with respect to the Company: (A) the sale or transfer of all or substantially all of the Company's assets in one or a series of transactions; (B) the sale or transfer of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Common Stock (through a merger, stock purchase, or otherwise); (C) any merger, consolidation, acquisition of control or other business combination of the Company with a third party; (D) any tender or exchange offer; (E) any dissolution, liquidation, or reorganization of the Company; (F) any recapitalization of the Company; (G) any debt or equity issuances or financings; or (H) any similar extraordinary transactions that would result in a Change of Control (as defined below) of the Company.

3. Standstill.

- (a) From the date of this Agreement until the expiration of the Standstill Period (as defined below), each Investor shall not, and shall cause their respective Affiliates, principals, directors, general partners, officers, employees and, to the extent acting on their behalf, agents and representatives (collectively, the "Related Persons") not to, directly or indirectly:
 - (i) make any announcement or proposal with respect to, or offer, seek, propose or indicate an interest in (x) any form of business combination or acquisition or other transaction relating to a material amount of assets or securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, (y) any form of restructuring, recapitalization or similar transaction with respect to the Company or any of its subsidiaries or (z) any form of tender or exchange offer for the Common Stock, whether or not such transaction involves a change of control of the Company (it being understood that the foregoing shall not prohibit the Investors from acquiring Common Stock within the limitations set forth in Section 3(a)(iii) of this Agreement);

- (ii) engage in any solicitation of proxies or written consents to vote any voting securities of the Company, or conduct any nonbinding referendum with respect to any voting securities of the Company, or assist or participate in any other way, directly or indirectly, in any solicitation of proxies (or written consents) with respect to any voting securities of the Company, or otherwise become a "participant" in a "solicitation," as such terms are defined in Instruction 3 of Item 4 of Schedule 14A and Rule 14a-1 of Regulation 14A, respectively, under the Exchange Act, to vote any securities of the Company;
- (iii) purchase or otherwise acquire, or offer, seek, propose or agree to acquire, ownership (including, but not limited to, beneficial ownership as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act) of any securities of the Company, any direct or indirect rights or options to acquire any such securities, any derivative securities or contracts or instruments in any way related to the price of shares of common stock of the Company, or any assets or liabilities of the Company; <u>provided</u> that the Investors may, in the aggregate, acquire beneficial ownership of up to nine and nine tenths percent (9.9%) of the outstanding shares of Common Stock;
- (iv) seek to advise, encourage or influence any person with respect to the voting of (or execution of a written consent in respect of) or disposition of any securities of the Company;
- (v) sell, offer or agree to sell directly or indirectly, through swap or hedging transactions or otherwise, the securities of the Company or any rights decoupled from the underlying securities held by the Investors to any person or entity not an (A) party to this Agreement, (B) member of the Board, (C) officer of the Company, or (D) an Affiliate of the Investors (any person or entity not set forth in clauses (A)-(D) shall be referred to as a "Third Party.") that would knowingly result in such Third Party, together with its Affiliates, owning, controlling or otherwise having any, beneficial or other ownership interest representing in the aggregate in excess of five percent (5.0%) of the shares of Common Stock outstanding at such time;

- (vi) engage in any short sale, hypothecation, "swap" transaction, or any purchase, sale or grant of any option, warrant, convertible security, stock appreciation right, or other similar right (including, without limitation, any put or call option) with respect to any security (other than a broad-based market basket or index) that includes, relates to or derives any significant part of its value from the market price or value of the securities of the Company; provided, that the foregoing shall not restrict the Investor Group from hedging its position in the Common Stock by selling covered call options with respect to no more than 25% of the Common Stock beneficially owned by the Investor Group at any time;
- (vii) take any action in support of or make any proposal or request that constitutes: (A) advising, controlling, changing or influencing the Board or management of the Company, including any plans or proposals to change the number or term of directors or to fill any vacancies on the Board, except as set forth in this Agreement, (B) any material change in the capitalization, stock repurchase programs and practices or dividend policy of the Company, (C) any other material change in the Company's management, business or corporate structure, (D) seeking to have the Company waive or make amendments or modifications to the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation or Restated Bylaws, or other actions that may impede or facilitate the acquisition of control of the Company by any person, (E) causing a class of securities of the Company to be delisted from, or to cease to be authorized to be quoted on, any securities exchange, or (F) causing a class of securities of the Company to become eligible for termination of registration pursuant to Section 12(g)(4) of the Exchange Act;
- (viii) initiate, propose or otherwise "solicit" stockholders of the Company for the approval of any stockholder proposals (whether pursuant to Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act or otherwise);
- (ix) communicate with stockholders of the Company or others pursuant to Rule 14a-1(1)(2)(iv) under the Exchange Act;
- (x) engage in any course of conduct with the purpose of causing stockholders of the Company to vote contrary to the recommendation of the Board on any matter presented to the Company's stockholders for their vote at any meeting of the Company's stockholders;
- (xi) otherwise act to seek to control or influence the management, the Board, or policies of the Company or initiate or take any action to obtain representation on the Board, except as permitted expressly by this Agreement;
- (xii) call or seek to call, or request the call of, alone or in concert with others, any meeting of stockholders, whether or not such a meeting is permitted by the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation or Restated Bylaws, including, but not limited to, a "town hall meeting;"

- (xiii) acquire or agree, offer, seek or propose to acquire, or cause to be acquired, ownership (including beneficial ownership) of any of the assets or business of the Company or any rights or options to acquire any such assets or business from any person;
- (xiv) seek election to the Board or seek to place a representative on the Board;
- (xv) seek the removal of any director from the Board;
- (xvi) deposit any Common Stock in any voting trust or subject any Common Stock to any arrangement or agreement with respect to the voting of any Common Stock (other than any such voting trust, arrangement or agreement solely among the members of the Investor Group that is otherwise in accordance with this Agreement);
- (xvii) seek, or encourage any person, to submit nominations in furtherance of a "contested solicitation" for the election or removal of directors with respect to the Company or seek, encourage or take any other action with respect to the election or removal of any directors:
- (xviii) form, join or in any other way participate in any "group" (within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) with respect to the Common Stock; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that nothing herein shall limit the ability of an Affiliate of the Investor Group to join the "group" following the execution of this Agreement, so long as any such Affiliate agrees to be bound in writing by the terms and conditions of this Agreement and files a Schedule 13D Amendment within two (2) business days disclosing that the Investor has formed a group with such Affiliate;
- (xix) demand a copy of the Company's list of stockholders or its other books and records or make any request under Section 220 of the Delaware General Corporation Law;
- commence, encourage, or support any derivative action in the name of the Company, or any class action against the Company or any of its officers or directors; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not prevent any Investor from (A) bringing litigation to enforce the provisions of this Agreement, (B) making counterclaims with respect to any proceeding initiated by, or on behalf of, the Company against an Investor, or (C) responding to or complying with a validly issued legal process that neither the Investors nor any of their Affiliates initiated, encouraged or facilitated;
- (xxi) disclose in a manner that could reasonably be expected to become public any intent, purpose, plan or proposal with respect to the Board, the Company, its management, policies or affairs, any of its securities or assets or this Agreement that is inconsistent with the provisions of this Agreement;
- (xxii) enter into any discussions, negotiations, agreements or understandings with any person or entity with respect to any action the Investors are prohibited from taking pursuant to this Section 3, or advise, assist, knowingly encourage or seek to persuade any person or entity to take any action or make any statement with respect to any such action, or otherwise take or cause any action or make any statement inconsistent with any of the foregoing;

- (xxiii) make any request or submit any proposal to amend or waive the terms of this <u>Section 3</u> other than through non-public communications with the Company that would not be reasonably determined to trigger public disclosure obligations for any party;
- (xxiv) take any action challenging the validity or enforceability of any of the provisions of this Section 3 or publicly disclose, or cause or facilitate the public disclosure (including, without limitation, the filing of any document with the SEC or any other governmental agency or any disclosure to any journalist, member of the media or securities analyst) of, any intent, purpose, plan or proposal to either (A) obtain any waiver or consent under, or any amendment of, any provision of this Agreement, or (B) take any action challenging the validity or enforceability of any provisions of this Section 3;
- (xxv) take any action that could reasonably be expected to force the Company to make any public disclosure with respect to any of the foregoing; or
- (xxvi) otherwise take, or solicit, cause or encourage others to take, any action inconsistent with the foregoing.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Section 3 shall prohibit or restrict the Investor Group from: (A) communicating privately with the Board or any officer or director of the Company, regarding any matter, so long as such communications are not intended to, and would not reasonably be expected to, require any public disclosure of such communications, subject in any case to any confidentiality obligations to the Company of any such director or officer, (B) taking any action necessary to comply with any law, rule or regulation or any action required by any governmental or regulatory authority or stock exchange that has, or may have, jurisdiction over the Investor Group or any of their respective Affiliates or Associates, provided that a breach by the Investor Group of this Agreement is not the cause of the applicable requirement, or (C) privately communicating to any of their potential investors or investors factual information regarding the Company, provided such communications are subject to reasonable confidentiality obligations and are not otherwise reasonably expected to be publicly disclosed. For the avoidance of doubt, subject to applicable law, the Investor Group shall not be prohibited from communicating privately with stockholders of the Company and others in a manner that does not otherwise violate this Section 3 or Section 6.

- (b) The provisions of this <u>Section 3</u> shall not limit in any respect the actions of any director of the Company in his or her capacity as such, recognizing that such actions are subject to such director's fiduciary duties to the Company and its stockholders (it being understood and agreed that neither the Investors nor any of their Affiliates shall seek to do indirectly through the New Directors anything that would be prohibited if done by any of the Investors or their Affiliates). The provisions of this <u>Section 3</u> shall also not prevent the Investor Group from freely voting its shares of Common Stock (except as otherwise provided in <u>Section 2</u> hereto) or taking any actions as specifically contemplated in <u>Section 1</u>.
- (c) During the Standstill Period each Investor shall refrain from taking any actions which could have the effect of encouraging other stockholders of the Company or any other persons to engage in actions which, if taken by any Investor, would violate this Agreement.
- (d) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary, the provisions of <u>Sections 1</u>, <u>2</u>, and <u>3</u> of this Agreement shall automatically terminate upon the occurrence of a Change of Control transaction (as defined below) involving the Company if the acquiring or counterparty to the Change of Control transaction has conditioned the closing of the transaction on the termination of such sections; and
 - (e) For purposes of this Agreement:
 - (i) "Affiliate" shall mean any "Affiliate" as defined in Rule 12b-2 promulgated by the SEC under the Exchange Act;
 - (ii) "Associate" shall mean any "Associate" as defined in Rule 12b-2 promulgated by the SEC under the Exchange Act;
 - (iii) "beneficial owner" and "beneficial ownership" shall have the same meanings as set forth in Rule 13d-3 promulgated by the SEC under the Exchange Act;
 - (iv) a "<u>Change of Control</u>" transaction shall be deemed to have taken place if (1) any person is or becomes a beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing more than 50% of the equity interests and voting power of the Company's then outstanding equity securities or (2) the Company enters into a stock-for-stock transaction whereby immediately after the consummation of the transaction the Company's stockholders retain less than 50% of the equity interests and voting power of the surviving entity's then outstanding equity securities;
 - (v) "person" or "persons" shall mean any individual, corporation (including not-for-profit), general or limited partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, estate, trust, association, organization or other entity of any kind or nature; and
 - (vi) "Standstill Period" shall mean the period commencing on the date of this Agreement and ending ten (10) calendar days prior to the expiration of the advance notice period for the submission by stockholders of director nominations for consideration at the 2020 Annual Meeting (as set forth in the advance notice provisions of the Company's Restated Bylaws existing on the date hereof).

- (f) During the Standstill Period, upon reasonable written notice from the Company pursuant to Section 10 hereof, the Investor Group will promptly provide the Company with information regarding the amount of the securities of the Company (a) beneficially owned by each such entity or individual, (b) with respect to which the Investor Group has (i) any direct or indirect rights or options to acquire or (ii) any economic exposure through any derivative securities or contracts or instruments in any way related to the price of such securities, or (c) with respect to which the Investor Group has hedged its position by selling covered call options. This ownership information provided to the Company will be kept strictly confidential unless required to be disclosed pursuant to applicable law.
- 4. Representations and Warranties of the Company. The Company represents and warrants to the Investors that (a) the Company has the corporate power and authority to execute the Agreement and to bind it thereto, (b) this Agreement has been duly and validly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company, constitutes a valid and binding obligation and agreement of the Company, and is enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or similar laws generally affecting the rights of creditors and subject to general equity principles and (c) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement by the Company does not and will not violate or conflict with (i) any law, rule, regulation, order, judgment or decree applicable to it, or (ii) result in any breach or violation of or constitute a default (or an event which with notice or lapse of time or both could become a default) under or pursuant to, or result in the loss of a material benefit under, or give any right of termination, amendment, acceleration or cancellation of, any organizational document, or any material agreement, contract, commitment, understanding or arrangement to which the Company is a party or by which it is bound.
- 5. Representations and Warranties of the Investors. Each Investor, on behalf of itself, jointly and severally represents and warrants to the Company that (a) as of the date hereof, such Investor beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, only the number of shares of Common Stock as described opposite its name on Exhibit C and Exhibit C includes all Affiliates of any Investors that own any securities of the Company beneficially or of record and reflects all shares of Common Stock in which the Investors have any interest or right to acquire, whether through derivative securities, voting agreements or otherwise, (b) this Agreement has been duly and validly authorized, executed and delivered by such Investor, and constitutes a valid and binding obligation and agreement of such Investor, enforceable against such Investor in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement thereof may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or similar laws generally affecting the rights of creditors and subject to general equity principles, (c) such Investor has the authority to execute the Agreement on behalf of itself and the applicable Investor associated with that signatory's name, and to bind such Investor to the terms hereof, (d) each of the Investors shall use its commercially reasonable efforts to cause its respective Related Persons, including each to comply with the terms of this Agreement and (e) the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement by such Investor does not and will not violate or conflict with (i) any law, rule, regulation, order, judgment or decree applicable to it, or (ii) result in any breach or violation of or constitute a default (or an event which with notice or lapse of time or both could become a default) under or pursuant to, or result in the loss of a material benefit under, or give any right of termination, amendment, acceleration or cancellation of, any organizational document, agreement, contract, commitment, understanding or arr

6. Mutual Non-Disparagement.

- Subject to Section 3, each Investor agrees that, until the earlier of (i) the expiration of the Standstill Period and (ii) any material breach of (a) this Agreement by the Company (provided that the Company shall have three (3) business days following written notice from such Investor of material breach to remedy such material breach if capable of remedy), neither it nor any of its Affiliates will, and it will cause each of its Affiliates not to, directly or indirectly, in any capacity or manner, make, express, transmit, speak, write, verbalize or otherwise communicate in any way (or cause, further, assist, solicit, encourage, support or participate in any of the foregoing), any remark, comment, message, information, declaration, communication or other statement of any kind, whether verbal, in writing, electronically transferred or otherwise, that might reasonably be construed to be derogatory or critical of, or negative toward, the Company or any of its directors, officers, Affiliates, subsidiaries, employees, agents or representatives (collectively, the "Company Representatives"), or that reveals, discloses, incorporates, is based upon, discusses, includes or otherwise involves any confidential or proprietary information of the Company or its subsidiaries or Affiliates, or that maligns, harms, disparages, defames or damages the reputation or good name of the Company, its business or any of the Company Representatives; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not prevent the Investors from privately communicating to the Company, any directors or executive officers of the Company, or any of the Investors' potential investors or investors factual information that could reasonably be construed as critical of, or negative toward, the Company or the Company Representatives so long as such communications are not reasonably expected to be made public. For the avoidance of doubt, the Investors shall not be prohibited by the foregoing from privately discussing with other stockholders of the Company facts about the Company and the Company Representatives that have been publicly disclosed by the Company so long as the Investors do not provide commentary with respect to such facts that might reasonably be construed to be derogatory or critical of, or negative toward, the Company or the Company Representatives and such discussions are not reasonably expected to be made public.
- (b) The Company hereby agrees that, until the earlier of (i) the expiration of the Standstill Period and (ii) any material breach of this Agreement by an Investor (provided that such Investor shall have three (3) business days following written notice from the Company of material breach to remedy such material breach if capable of remedy), neither it nor any of its Affiliates will, and it will cause each of its Affiliates not to, directly or indirectly, in any capacity or manner, make, express, transmit, speak, write, verbalize or otherwise communicate in any way (or cause, further, assist, solicit, encourage, support or participate in any of the foregoing), any remark, comment, message, information, declaration, communication or other statement of any kind, whether verbal, in writing, electronically transferred or otherwise, that might reasonably be construed to be derogatory or critical of, or negative toward, any Investor or its Related Persons, or that reveals, discloses, incorporates, is based upon, discusses, includes or otherwise involves any confidential or proprietary information of any Investor or its subsidiaries or Affiliates, or that maligns, harms, disparages, defames or damages the reputation or good name of any Investor, its business or any of the Related Persons; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not prevent the Company from privately communicating to an Investor factual information that could reasonably be construed as critical of, or negative toward, the Investors or their Related Persons so long as such communications are not reasonably expected to be made public.

- (c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this <u>Section 6</u> or elsewhere in this <u>Agreement shall prohibit</u> any party from making any statement or disclosure required under the federal securities laws or other applicable laws; <u>provided</u>, that such party must provide written notice to the other parties at least two (2) business days prior to making any such statement or disclosure required under the federal securities laws or other applicable laws that would otherwise be prohibited the provisions of this <u>Section 6</u>, and reasonably consider any comments of such other parties.
- (d) The limitations set forth in <u>Section 6(a)</u> and <u>6(b)</u> shall not prevent any party from responding to any public statement made by the other party of the nature described in <u>Section 6(a)</u> and <u>6(b)</u> if such statement by the other party was made in breach of this Agreement.
- 7. <u>Public Announcements.</u> Promptly following the execution of this Agreement, the Company and the Investor Group shall issue a mutually agreeable press release (the "<u>Press Release</u>") announcing this Agreement, substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit D</u>. Prior to the issuance of the Press Release, neither the Company nor any of the Investors shall issue any press release or make any public announcement regarding this Agreement or take any action that would require public disclosure thereof without the prior written consent of the other party. No party or any of its Affiliates shall make any public statement (including, without limitation, in any filing required under the Exchange Act) concerning the subject matter of this Agreement inconsistent with the Press Release.

8. SEC Filings.

- (a) No later than two (2) business days following the execution of this Agreement, the Company shall file a Current Report on Form 8-K with the SEC reporting entry into this Agreement and appending or incorporating by reference this Agreement as an exhibit thereto.
- (b) No later than two (2) business days following the execution of this Agreement, the Investor Group shall file an amendment to its Schedule 13D with respect to the Company that has been filed with the SEC, reporting the entry into this Agreement, amending applicable items to conform to their obligations hereunder and appending or incorporating by reference this Agreement as an exhibit thereto. Except for amendments to the Schedule 13D filed by the Investor Group made solely to report material changes to the information contained therein, including a change in the level of ownership of Common Stock and the entry into this Agreement and the issuance of the Press Release, none of the Investors shall, during the Standstill Period, (i) issue a press release in connection with this Agreement or the actions contemplated hereby or (ii) otherwise make any public statement, disclosure or announcement with respect to this Agreement or the actions contemplated hereby, in each case without the prior written consent of the Company, with such consent to be approved by a majority vote of the Board, unless required by applicable law.

- 9. <u>Specific Performance</u>. Each of the Investors, on the one hand, and the Company, on the other hand, acknowledges and agrees that irreparable injury to the other party hereto would occur in the event any of the provisions of this Agreement are not performed in accordance with their specific terms or are otherwise breached and that such injury would not be adequately compensable in monetary damages. It is accordingly agreed that the Investors or any Investor, on the one hand, and the Company, on the other hand (the "<u>Moving Party</u>"), shall each be entitled to specific enforcement of, and injunctive or other equitable relief as a remedy for any such breach or to prevent any violation or threatened violation of, the terms hereof, and the other party hereto will not take action, directly or indirectly, in opposition to the Moving Party seeking such relief on the grounds that any other remedy or relief is available at law or in equity. The parties further agree to waive any requirement for the security or posting of any bond in connection with any such relief. Such remedies shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedies for a breach of this Agreement but shall be in addition to all other remedies available at law or equity.
- 10. Notice. Any notices, consents, determinations, waivers or other communications required or permitted to be given under the terms of this Agreement must be in writing and will be deemed to have been delivered: (i) upon receipt, when delivered personally; (ii) upon receipt, when sent by email or facsimile (provided confirmation of transmission is mechanically or electronically generated and kept on file by the sending party); or (iii) one (1) business day after deposit with a nationally recognized overnight delivery service, in each case properly addressed to the party to receive the same. The addresses and facsimile numbers for such communications shall be:

If to the Company:

The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. 100 East Ridge Road Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877 Attn: Alexandros Aldous, Esq.

General Counsel, Chief Government Relations Officer &

Corporate Secretary

Email: AAldous@chefswarehouse.com

If to any Investor:

Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC 9401 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 705
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Fax No.: (310) 729-8588
Email: CKiner@legionpartners.com

Email: CKiper@legionpartners.com Attention: Chris Kiper, Managing Director With copies (which shall not constitute notice) to:

Olshan Frome Wolosky LLP 1325 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10019 Fax No.: (212) 451-2222

E-mail: swolosky@olshanlaw.com

egonzalez@olshanlaw.com Attention: Steve Wolosky, Esq.

Elizabeth Gonzalez-Sussman, Esq.

- 11. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Agreement shall be governed in all respects, including validity, interpretation, and effect, by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Delaware without giving effect to the choice of law or conflict of law principles thereof or of any other jurisdiction.
- 12. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. Each of the parties hereto irrevocably agrees that any legal action or proceeding with respect to this Agreement and the rights and obligations arising hereunder, or for recognition and enforcement of any judgment in respect of this Agreement and the rights and obligations arising hereunder brought by the other parties hereto or their respective successors or assigns, shall be brought and determined exclusively in the Delaware Court of Chancery and any state appellate court therefrom within the State of Delaware (or, if the Delaware Court of Chancery declines to accept jurisdiction over a particular matter, any federal court within the State of Delaware). Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably submits with regard to any such action or proceeding for themselves and in respect of their property, generally and unconditionally, to the personal jurisdiction of the aforesaid courts and agrees that they will not bring any action relating to this Agreement in any court other than the aforesaid courts. Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably waives, and agrees not to assert in any action or proceeding with respect to this Agreement, (i) any claim that they are not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the abovenamed courts for any reason, (ii) any claim that they or their property is exempt or immune from jurisdiction of any such court or from any legal process commenced in such courts (whether through service of notice, attachment prior to judgment, attachment in aid of execution or judgment, execution of judgment or otherwise) and (iii) to the fullest extent permitted by applicable legal requirements, any claim that (A) the suit, action or proceeding in such court is brought in an inconvenient forum, (B) the venue of such suit, action or proceeding is improper or (C) this Agreement, or the subject matter hereof, may not be enforced in or by such courts.
- 13. Waiver of Jury Trial. EACH PARTY ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT ANY CONTROVERSY WHICH MAY ARISE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT IS LIKELY TO INVOLVE COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT ISSUES AND, THEREFORE, EACH SUCH PARTY IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY WAIVES ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LEGAL ACTION ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED BY THIS AGREEMENT. EACH PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT CERTIFIES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT (A) NO REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY OTHER PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PARTY WOULD NOT SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER IN THE EVENT OF A LEGAL ACTION, (B) SUCH PARTY HAS CONSIDERED THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS WAIVER, (C) SUCH PARTY MAKES THIS WAIVER VOLUNTARILY, AND (D) SUCH PARTY HAS BEEN INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVERS AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION 13.

- 14. <u>Representative</u>. Each Investor hereby irrevocably appoints Legion Partners as its attorney-in-fact and representative (the "<u>Legion Representative</u>"), in such Investor's place and stead, to do any and all things and to execute any and all documents and give and receive any and all notices or instructions in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby. The Company shall be entitled to rely, as being binding on each Investor, upon any action taken by the Legion Representative or upon any document, notice, instruction or other writing given or executed by the Legion Representative.
- 15. Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the full and entire understanding and agreement among the parties with regard to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements, understandings and representations, whether oral or written, of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. There are no restrictions, agreements, promises, representations, warranties, covenants or undertakings, oral or written, between the parties other than those expressly set forth herein.
- 16. <u>Headings</u>. The section headings contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not effect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- 17. <u>Waiver</u>. No failure on the part of any party to exercise, and no delay in exercising, any right, power or remedy hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of such right, power or remedy by such party preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power or remedy.
 - 18. Remedies. All remedies hereunder are cumulative and are not exclusive of any other remedies provided by law or equity.
- 19. <u>Construction</u>. When a reference is made in this Agreement to a Section, such reference shall be to a Section of this Agreement, unless otherwise indicated. The headings contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. Whenever the words "include," "includes" and "including" are used in this Agreement, they shall be deemed to be followed by the words "without limitation." The words "hereof, "herein" and "hereunder" and words of similar import when used in this Agreement shall refer to this Agreement as a whole and not to any particular provision of this Agreement. The word "will" shall be construed to have the same meaning as the word "shall." The words "dates hereof" will refer to the date of this Agreement. The word "or" is not exclusive. The definitions contained in this Agreement are applicable to the singular as well as the plural forms of such terms. Any agreement, instrument, law, rule or statute defined or referred to herein means, unless otherwise indicated, such agreement, instrument, law, rule or statute as from time to time amended, modified or supplemented.

- 20. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Any provision of this Agreement held invalid or unenforceable only in part or degree shall remain in full force and effect to the extent not held invalid or unenforceable. The parties further agree to replace such invalid or unenforceable provision of this Agreement with a valid and enforceable provision that will achieve, to the extent possible, the purposes of such invalid or unenforceable provision.
- 21. <u>Amendment</u>. This Agreement may be modified, amended or otherwise changed only in a writing signed by the Company, on the one hand, and the Legion Representative (on behalf of itself and the other members of the Investor Group), on the other hand.
- 22. <u>Termination</u>. Upon the expiration of the Standstill Period in accordance with $\underline{Section\ 3(e)(v)}$ hereof, this Agreement shall immediately and automatically terminate in its entirety and no party hereunder shall have any further rights or obligations under this Agreement; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, no party shall be released from any breach of this Agreement that occurred prior to the termination of this Agreement.
- 23. <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and be enforceable by the parties hereto and the respective successors, heirs, executors, legal representatives and permitted assigns of the parties, and inure to the benefit of any successor, heir, executor, legal representative or permitted assign of any of the parties; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that no party may assign this Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder without, with respect to any Investor, the express prior written consent of the Company (with such consent specifically authorized in a written resolution adopted by a majority vote of the Board), and with respect to the Company, the prior written consent of the Legion Representative.
- 24. <u>No Third-Party Beneficiaries</u>. The representations, warranties and agreements of the parties contained herein are intended solely for the benefit of the party to whom such representations, warranties or agreements are made, and shall confer no rights, benefits, remedies, obligations, or liabilities hereunder, whether legal or equitable, in any other person or entity, and no other person or entity shall be entitled to rely thereon.
- 25. <u>Counterparts; Facsimile / PDF Signatures</u>. This Agreement and any amendments hereto may be signed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original, with the same effect as if the signatures thereto and hereto were upon the same instrument. This Agreement shall become effective when each party hereto shall have received a counterpart hereof signed by the other parties hereto. In the event that any signature to this Agreement or any amendment hereto is delivered by facsimile transmission or by email delivery of a portable document format (.pdf or similar format) data file, such signature shall create a valid and binding obligation of the party executing (or on whose behalf such signature is executed) with the same force and effect as if such facsimile or ".pdf" signature page were an original thereof.
- 26. Expenses. Each of the Company and the Investors shall be responsible for its own fees and expenses incurred in connection with the negotiation, execution, and effectuation of this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby, including, but not limited to attorneys' fees incurred in connection with the negotiation and execution of this Agreement and all other activities related to the foregoing; provided, however, that the Company shall reimburse the Investor Group, within thirty (30) days of the date that the Company receives reasonably satisfactory supporting documentation, for its reasonable documented out-of-pocket third party expenses, including legal fees and expenses, as actually incurred in connection with the filing of a Schedule 13D amendment in connection with this Agreement and the negotiation and execution of this Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

THE CHEFS' WAREHOUSE, INC.

By: /s/ Alexandros Aldous

Name: Alexandros Aldous

 $\label{thm:constraint} \mbox{Title:} \quad \mbox{General Counsel, Corporate Secretary \& } \\$

Chief Government Relations Officer

LEGION PARTNERS, L.P. I

By: Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC Investment

Advisor

By: /s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Name: Christopher S. Kiper Title: Managing Director

LEGION PARTNERS, L.P. II

By: Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC Investment

Advisor

By: /s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Name: Christopher S. Kiper Title: Managing Director

LEGION PARTNERS SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES, L.P. VII

By: Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC Investment

Advisor

By: /s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Name: Christopher S. Kiper Title: Managing Director

[Signature Page to Settlement Agreement]

LEGION PARTNERS, LLC

By: Legion Partners Holdings, LLC

Sole Member

By: /s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Name: Christopher S. Kiper Title: Managing Member

LEGION PARTNERS ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC

By: /s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Name: Christopher S. Kiper Title: Managing Director

LEGION PARTNERS HOLDINGS, LLC

By: /s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Name: Christopher S. Kiper Title: Managing Member

/s/ Christopher S. Kiper

Christopher S. Kiper

/s/ Raymond White

Raymond White

[Signature Page to Settlement Agreement]

EXHIBIT A

- Legion Partners, L.P. I
- Legion Partners, L.P. II
- Legion Partners Special Opportunities, L.P. VII
- · Legion Partners, LLC
- · Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC
- · Legion Partners Holdings, LLC
- · Christopher S. Kiper
- · Raymond White

EXHIBIT B

FORM OF IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF RESIGNATION

David E. Schreibman [Address]

January 15, 2018

Chairman of the Board of Directors The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. 100 East Ridge Road Ridgefield, CT 06877

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I refer to the Cooperation Agreement (the "<u>Agreement</u>") dated as of January 15, 2018, between The Chefs' Warehouse (the "<u>Company</u>"), on the one hand, and Legion Partners, L.P. I, Legion Partners, L.P. II, Legion Partners Special Opportunities, L.P. VII, Legion Partners, LLC, Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC, Legion Partners Holdings, LLC, Christopher S. Kiper, and Raymond White (collectively, the "<u>Investors</u>"), on the other hand. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this letter have the meanings set forth in the Agreement.

This letter is to confirm that, in accordance with Section 1(c) of the Agreement, I hereby irrevocably tender my resignation as a member of the board of directors of the Company and each committee of the board of directors on which I serve, it being understood that (i) the tender of such resignation shall be effective as such time as (A) any Investor or any Affiliate thereof submits a notice of a nomination of directors for election to the Board during the Standstill Period, (B) any Investor is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated Section 3 of the Agreement during the Standstill Period, or (C) I cease to be "independent" as defined by the listing standards of NASDAQ, or if I become an officer, director, employee or Affiliate of any Investor, or if I receive compensation from the Investor Group, and (ii) any resignation shall be effective only as, if and when accepted by the board of directors.

Sincerely,

/s/ David E. Schreibman
David E. Schreibman

Christina Carroll [Address]

January 15, 2018

Chairman of the Board of Directors The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. 100 East Ridge Road Ridgefield, CT 06877

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I refer to the Cooperation Agreement (the "<u>Agreement</u>") dated as of January 15, 2018, between The Chefs' Warehouse (the "<u>Company</u>"), on the one hand, and Legion Partners, L.P. I, Legion Partners, L.P. II, Legion Partners Special Opportunities, L.P. VII, Legion Partners, LLC, Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC, Legion Partners Holdings, LLC, Christopher S. Kiper, and Raymond White (collectively, the "<u>Investors</u>"), on the other hand. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this letter have the meanings set forth in the Agreement.

This letter is to confirm that, in accordance with Section 1(c) of the Agreement, I hereby irrevocably tender my resignation as a member of the board of directors of the Company and each committee of the board of directors on which I serve, it being understood that (i) the tender of such resignation shall be effective as such time as (A) any Investor or any Affiliate thereof submits a notice of a nomination of directors for election to the Board during the Standstill Period, (B) any Investor is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated Section 3 of the Agreement during the Standstill Period, or (C) I cease to be "independent" as defined by the listing standards of NASDAQ, or if I become an officer, director, employee or Affiliate of any Investor, or if I receive compensation from the Investor Group, and (ii) any resignation shall be effective only as, if and when accepted by the board of directors.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christina Carroll Christina Carroll

EXHIBIT C

SHAREHOLDERS, AFFILIATES, AND OWNERSHIP

Name of Person or Entity	Number of Shares
Legion Partners, L.P. I ("Legion Partners I")	Legion Partners I beneficially owns 1,429,032 shares of common stock of the Company.
Legion Partners, L.P. II ("Legion Partners II")	Legion Partners II beneficially owns 90,731 shares of common stock of the Company.
Legion Partners Special Opportunities, L.P. VII ("Legion Partners Special VII")	Legion Partners Special VII beneficially owns 184,476 shares of common stock of the Company.
Legion Partners, LLC	As the general partner of each of Legion Partners I, Legion Partners II, and Legion Partners Special VII, Legion Partners, LLC may be deemed the beneficial owner of the (i) 1,429,032 shares owned by Legion Partners I, (ii) 90,731 shares owned by Legion Partners II, and (iii) 184,476 shares owned by Legion Partners Special VII.
Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC ("Legion Partners Asset Management")	Legion Partners Asset Management, as the investment advisor of each of Legion Partners I and Legion Partners II, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the (i) 1,429,032 shares owned by Legion Partners I, (ii) 90,731 shares owned by Legion Partners II, and (iii) 184,476 shares owned by Legion Partners Special VII.
Legion Partners Holdings, LLC ("Legion Partners Holdings")	Legion Partners Holdings, as the sole member of Legion Partners Asset Management and managing member of Legion Partners, LLC, may be deemed the beneficial owner of the (i) 1,429,032 shares owned by Legion Partners I, (ii) 90,731 shares owned by Legion Partners II, and (iii) 184,476 shares owned by Legion Partners Special VII.
Christopher S. Kiper	As a managing director of Legion Partners Asset Management and a managing member of Legion Partners Holdings, Mr. Kiper may be deemed the beneficial owner of the (i) 1,429,032 shares owned by Legion Partners I, (ii) 90,731 shares owned by Legion Partners II, and (iii) 184,476 shares owned by Legion Partners Special VII.
Raymond White	As a managing director of Legion Partners Asset Management and a managing member of Legion Partners Holdings, Mr. White may be deemed the beneficial owner of the (i) 1,429,032 shares owned by Legion Partners I, (ii) 90,731 shares owned by Legion Partners II, and (iii) 184,476 shares owned by Legion Partners Special VII.

EXHIBIT D

FORM OF PRESS RELEASE

The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. Reaches Cooperation Agreement with Legion Partners Asset Management

Ridgefield, CT, January 16, 2018 – The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. (the "Company") (Nasdaq: CHEF), a premier distributor of specialty food products in the United States and Canada, announced today that it has entered into an agreement (the "Cooperation Agreement") with Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC and certain of its affiliates (collectively, "Legion Partners"). Legion Partners beneficially owns approximately 6.0% of the Company's outstanding common stock.

Pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, the Company has agreed to appoint two new independent directors, Christina Carroll and David E. Schreibman, to the Company's Board of Directors on or prior to February 18, 2018, and to nominate Ms. Carroll and Mr. Schreibman at the Company's 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders. In addition, Mr. Schreibman will join the Board's Compensation and Human Capital Committee, Ms. Carroll will join the Board's Audit Committee and one of the new directors will join the Board's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Company has also agreed to reduce the size of the Board by one director at each of the 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders so that immediately following the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, the Board will be fixed at 10 directors.

In addition, pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, Legion Partners has agreed to vote its shares in support of any director nominated and recommended by the Board at the Company's 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders, in addition to certain customary standstill provisions and other voting agreements. The parties have also agreed to certain mutual non-disparagement obligations.

"We are pleased to welcome Christina and David to the Chefs' family. I am excited for us all to work together to maximize our future prospects and increase shareholder value," said Christopher Pappas, chairman and chief executive officer of The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc.

Christopher Kiper, Managing Director of Legion Partners, said, "The Chefs' Warehouse has done a great job growing the business into what it is now and has a very exciting future ahead. We believe that Christina and David's skills and expertise will enhance the already very talented Board and management team."

About Christina Carroll

Christina Carroll is currently Managing Director, valuation advisory and financial opinions at Stout Risius Ross, LLC ("Stout") where she is responsible for originating and executing valuations, fairness opinions and other transaction related financial advisory services across industries. Prior to Stout Ms. Carroll was director, financial advisory services at Houlihan Lokey, Inc. Ms. Carroll also previously held managerial positions at Ernst & Young LLP including partner in valuation and transaction advisory services.

About David E. Schreibman

David Schreibman is currently a consultant at Walgreens Boots Alliance and is the Rite Aid acquisition integration management officer leader. Prior to that he held roles at US Foods including executive vice president of strategy and senior vice president of business development. Prior to US Foods he held roles at Specialty Foods Corporation including vice president, secretary and general counsel.

The complete agreement will be included as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Shearman & Sterling LLP is serving as legal counsel to the Company.

About The Chefs' Warehouse

The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. is a premier distributor of specialty food products in the United States and Canada focused on serving the specific needs of chefs who own and/or operate some of the nation's leading menu-driven independent restaurants, fine dining establishments, country clubs, hotels, caterers, culinary schools, bakeries, patisseries, chocolatiers, cruise lines, casinos and specialty food stores. The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. carries and distributes more than 43,000 products to more than 28,000 customer locations throughout the United States and Canada.

Forward-Looking Statements

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this press release regarding the Company's business that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties and are based on current expectations and management estimates; actual results may differ materially. Forward-looking statements in this news release may address the following subjects among others: the Company's strategic plans and the effectiveness of the Company's Board in overseeing the execution of the Company's strategic plans. Any forward-looking statements are made pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and, as such, speak only as of the date made. A more detailed description of these and other risk factors is contained in the Company's most recent annual report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 10, 2017 and other reports filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission since that date. The Company is not undertaking to update any information in the foregoing report until the effective date of its future reports required by applicable laws. Any projections of future results of operations are based on a number of assumptions, many of which are outside the Company's control and should not be construed in any manner as a guarantee that such results will in fact occur. These projections are subject to change and could differ materially from final reported results. The Company may from time to time update these publicly announced projections, but it is not obligated to do so.

Contact:

Investor Relations: Jim Leddy, CFO, (718) 684-8415

The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. Reaches Cooperation Agreement with Legion Partners Asset Management

Ridgefield, CT, January 16, 2018 – The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc. (the "Company") (Nasdaq: CHEF), a premier distributor of specialty food products in the United States and Canada, announced today that it has entered into an agreement (the "Cooperation Agreement") with Legion Partners Asset Management, LLC and certain of its affiliates (collectively, "Legion Partners"). Legion Partners beneficially owns approximately 6.0% of the Company's outstanding common stock.

Pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, the Company has agreed to appoint two new independent directors, Christina Carroll and David E. Schreibman, to the Company's Board of Directors on or prior to February 18, 2018, and to nominate Ms. Carroll and Mr. Schreibman at the Company's 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders. In addition, Mr. Schreibman will join the Board's Compensation and Human Capital Committee, Ms. Carroll will join the Board's Audit Committee and one of the new directors will join the Board's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Company has also agreed to reduce the size of the Board by one director at each of the 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders so that immediately following the 2019 annual meeting of stockholders, the Board will be fixed at 10 directors.

In addition, pursuant to the Cooperation Agreement, Legion Partners has agreed to vote its shares in support of any director nominated and recommended by the Board at the Company's 2018 and 2019 annual meetings of stockholders, in addition to certain customary standstill provisions and other voting agreements. The parties have also agreed to certain mutual non-disparagement obligations.

"We are pleased to welcome Christina and David to the Chefs' family. I am excited for us all to work together to maximize our future prospects and increase shareholder value," said Christopher Pappas, chairman and chief executive officer of The Chefs' Warehouse, Inc.

Christopher Kiper, Managing Director of Legion Partners, said, "The Chefs' Warehouse has done a great job growing the business into what it is now and has a very exciting future ahead. We believe that Christina and David's skills and expertise will enhance the already very talented Board and management team."

About Christina Carroll

Christina Carroll is currently Managing Director, valuation advisory and financial opinions at Stout Risius Ross, LLC ("Stout") where she is responsible for originating and executing valuations, fairness opinions and other transaction related financial advisory services across industries. Prior to Stout Ms. Carroll was director, financial advisory services at Houlihan Lokey, Inc. Ms. Carroll also previously held managerial positions at Ernst & Young LLP including partner in valuation and transaction advisory services.

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