

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 144

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PETERSON, PRICE, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE AND REPRESENTATIVES BARRAS, BILLIOT, BISHOP, COUSSAN, DEVILLIER, EMERSON, HUVAL, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, PIERRE AND STEFANSKI

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Antoine Duplantis, No. 8 on the Louisiana State University Tiger Baseball team, for his exceptional career in the Southeastern Conference and to congratulate him on his 353rd base hit that set a new career LSU base hit record.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana wishes to congratulate Antoine Duplantis for his exceptional athletic abilities and for his extraordinary batting performance; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Paul Mainieri and the entire team put forth their best efforts that culminated in the capture of the 24th National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Regional Title win for LSU over the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles; and

WHEREAS, the highlight of that evening of June 2nd was a first-inning single hit by senior Antoine Duplantis to break the previous LSU base hit record of (352) held by Eddy Furniss since 1998; and

WHEREAS, along with that line-drive single to center that broke the record, Antoine also broke the LSU record for games played (267); he received a thunderous standing ovation by the Tiger fans at Alex Box Stadium and he tipped his cap from first base; and

WHEREAS, while Josh Smith drove in three runs with a home run and a triple to lead the 13th-seeded LSU Tigers along with Zach Watson's two-RBI single in the seventh, Antoine Duplantis garnered a sensational second hit (354) to ignite an LSU rally that secured their victory in the regionals with a 6-4 win; that second hit is the pinnacle of his baseball career so far; and

WHEREAS, Duplantis is having an excellent 2019 season with a .319 batting average, 11 home runs, and 63 runs batted in (RBIs) thus far; also he has moved into second

place in the SEC career hits category behind Mississippi State center fielder, Jake Mangum; and

WHEREAS, Antoine wears the LSU jersey No. 8 for the second straight season; that number is given each year to the upperclassman who exemplifies the spirit of LSU Baseball through his leadership and dedication; and

WHEREAS, his father, Greg, was so thrilled; he proudly held up a huge sign with his son's number and name and waved it furiously; his teammates stood up in the dugout and all raised their hats to note the occasion; and

WHEREAS, Antoine comes from a family of outstanding athletes; his parents, Greg and Helena, were both student-athletes at LSU; his mother, a native of Sweden, competed in the heptathlon and played volleyball; father Greg was an All-SEC and All-American pole vaulter; his older brother Andreas competed as a pole vaulter for LSU and a younger sister Johanna also participates in the LSU track and field program; and

WHEREAS, his younger brother, LSU track and field star Armand "Mondo" Duplantis, is presently the NCAA record-holder in pole-vaulting; and

WHEREAS, Antoine Duplantis has garnered impressive baseball titles that include (in 2018) United States Collegiate National Team Member, SEC Academic Honor Roll, SEC All-Tournament Team, and First-Team All-Louisiana; (in 2017) College World Series All-Tournament Team, SEC All-Tournament Team, Second-Team All-Louisiana, SEC Academic Honor Roll, Collegiate Baseball National Player of the Week, and SEC Player of the Week for March 20, 2017; and (in 2016) Freshman All-American for Collegiate Baseball, NCBWA, and Perfect Game; Freshman All-SEC, SEC Freshman of the Week for May 23, 2016, and First-Team All-Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Eddy Furniss had a .371 batting average while at LSU and set Southeastern Conference (SEC) career records for hits (352), doubles (87), home runs (80), runs batted in (309), and total bases (689); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eddy Furniss was filled with such pride and excitement at that special moment that he graciously sent his best wishes to Antoine to congratulate him on his new base hit record; and

WHEREAS, the LSU Tigers are among sixteen regional champions that also include

Arkansas, Auburn, Duke, East Carolina, Florida State, Louisville, Michigan, Mississippi, Mississippi State, North Carolina, Oklahoma State, Stanford, Texas Tech, UCLA, and Vanderbilt; and.

WHEREAS, as the Tigers baseball team (40-24) wins its 24th NCAA Regional Title, the team is set to host an NCAA super regional tournament, and this is the 14th Super Regional berth earned by LSU; and

WHEREAS, beginning on Saturday, June 8th, LSU will play host to the Florida State Seminoles (39-21) in the best-of-three series, and Antione will be looking to add to his career record and securing a trip to Omaha, Nebraska, to the College World Series for the Tigers; and

WHEREAS, although Antoine was picked in the 19th Round of the 2018 Major League Baseball Draft by the Cleveland Indians, he chose to return to LSU his senior year and he and the Tiger faithful are all the better for it; and

WHEREAS, Antoine Duplantis has a promising future in Major League Baseball and LSU Tiger fans are poised to follow his success.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Antoine Duplantis, No. 8 of the LSU Tiger Baseball team, on his exceptional career in the SEC and does hereby congratulate him on his 353rd base hit that broke the twenty-one year record at LSU.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend best wishes to Antoine Duplantis and his teammates for continued success in the NCAA baseball tournament.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend the best of luck to Antoine Duplantis with all his future record-breaking hits.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Antoine Duplantis.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES