

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY SENATORS BERNARD, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FIELDS, HARRIS, HENRY, HEWITT, JACKSON, JOHNS, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Kerry Kittles on being named to the 2020 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame induction class.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana, each year collaborates with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association in selecting a limited number of sports figures who embody the character, skill, and talents worthy of being named to the hall of fame; and

WHEREAS, Kerry Kittles was born on June 12, 1974, in Dayton, Ohio, and became a highly recruited six-foot six-inch shooting guard out of St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kittles led the St. Augustine Purple Knights to a 66-5 record in his final two prep seasons from 1989 to 1991, reaching the state finals as a junior and winning it as a senior, scoring 22.5 points per game; and

WHEREAS, he was a high-scoring guard with the Villanova University Wildcats and played eight years in the National Basketball Association (NBA) from 1997 to 2005 as a first-round, and number eight overall pick of the New Jersey Nets in 1996; and

WHEREAS, as a Wildcat he set fifteen school records topped by his two thousand two hundred forty-three career points as he averaged 18.4 points, 5.9 rebounds, and 3.3 assists in four seasons from 1993 to 1996 while shooting 47.8 percent from the field in one hundred twenty-two games; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kittles was the Big East Player of the Year as a junior in 1995, averaging 21.4 points while shooting 52.4 percent from field, 6.1 rebounds, 3.5 assists, and 2.2 steals, leading the Wildcats to their first Big East Tournament crown; and

WHEREAS, he was a consensus second-team All-American in 1995, a first-teamer in 1996 as a senior, and led the Big East in steals in 1994 with eighty-seven; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kittles remains ranked seventh all-time in Big East history in scoring and fifth when he graduated, fifth in field goals with eight hundred twenty-one, ninth in 3-point field-goal percentage with 39.4 percent, and ninth in steals with two hundred seventy-seven; and

WHEREAS, he played in five hundred seven games with four hundred fifty-five starts and posted career averages of 14.1 points, 3.9 rebounds, 2.6 assists, and 1.6 steals per game in seven seasons with the New Jersey Nets and one season with the Los Angeles Clippers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kittles averaged at least 12.9 points per game every year until injuries limited him to eleven games in his final season; and

WHEREAS, after being a second-team All-Rookie pick in 1997 when he set an NBA rookie record with one hundred fifty-eight 3-pointers and averaged 16.4 points and 3.9 rebounds, he had his best pro season statistically in 1998 with career highs of 17.2 points and 4.7 rebounds; and

WHEREAS, he also averaged 12.3 points and 3.6 rebounds in starting all fifty-four playoff games he played, helping the Nets to the NBA Finals in 2002 and 2003; and

WHEREAS, the successful career of Kerry Kittles has rightly earned him a place among the many greats in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Kerry Kittles on being named to the 2020 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame induction class.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Kerry Kittles.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE