

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 166

BY SENATOR JOHNS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Coach Brooks Donald Williams of McNeese State University upon the occasion of her resignation as the winningest coach in McNeese Cowgirl basketball history.

WHEREAS, Coach Brooks Donald Williams has resigned her position with the Cowgirls, after nine seasons as head coach, to take an assistant coaching position at the University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Coach Williams, who was named the head coach of McNeese State University in 2007, led the Cowgirls to six consecutive national postseason tournament appearances in her nine seasons with McNeese and an overall record of one hundred sixty-one wins and one hundred thirty losses; and

WHEREAS, Williams guided McNeese to the 2011 Southland Conference championship, the 2011 and 2012 Southland Conference tournament titles, and two appearances in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Basketball Tournament in 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Cowgirls and Coach Williams made four consecutive appearances, beginning in 2013 through the past season of 2016, in the Women's Basketball Invitational postseason tournament, including advancing to the tournament championship game in 2013; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at McNeese, Coach Williams and the Cowgirls posted four 20-win seasons, including a school record twenty-six victories in the 2011-2012 season and tying that record in the 2012-2013 season, a school record fifteen conference wins in 2011, and, since the 2010-2011 season, the Cowgirls have posted a one hundred thirty to seventy-one overall record and a seventy-one to thirty-three mark in league play; and

WHEREAS, Coach Williams was named the Southland Conference Coach of the Year in 2011 and her teams included sixteen all-Southland Conference players, seven players named as all-tournament performers in the Southland Conference tournament, two

tournament most valuable players, a newcomer of the year in the conference recipient, and four times a Cowgirl was named the league's student-athlete of the year; and

WHEREAS, under the guidance of Coach Brooks Williams, two Cowgirls ended their college basketball eligibility as McNeese career leaders in assists, three players ended their careers in the top five and four in the top ten in career scoring by McNeese Cowgirls; and

WHEREAS, Coach Brooks Williams expressed her thanks for the opportunities afforded her at McNeese State University and stated that she felt blessed to have had the opportunity to meet and coach such amazing young women as have worn the Cowgirl uniform during her tenure; and

WHEREAS, Coach Williams continued by praising the loyalty and commitment of the young women she has coached at the school, stating also that so many of the Cowgirls had become like members of her family and that they would continue to remain so for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, Williams resigned her position at McNeese in order to join a close friend and Louisiana native who is the women's basketball head coach for the Alabama Crimson Tide; and

WHEREAS, Coach Williams' career leading the Cowgirls of McNeese State University established the basketball program as a successful performer in the Southland Conference, producing both exceptional players and championship caliber teams, all accomplishments which provide Coach Brooks Donald Williams and the McNeese Cowgirls a resume of which the coach and the university can be justly proud.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Coach Brooks Donald Williams formerly of McNeese State University upon the occasion of her resignation as the winningest coach in McNeese Cowgirl basketball history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to former McNeese State University Cowgirl basketball coach, Brooks Donald Williams.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE