SLS 20RS-707

ORIGINAL

2020 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Armand "Mondo" Duplantis former Louisiana State University track athlete on setting new world indoor records for the pole vault.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commend Armand "Mondo" Duplantis, a former member of the track and field team at
3	Louisiana State University (LSU), on breaking the world indoor record in the pole
4	vault in successive international track and field competitions.
5	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis, a Lafayette, Louisiana, native and former LSU
6	athlete, represents his mother's native country of Sweden in international competition since
7	he maintains dual citizenship, and he is the reigning European champion; and
8	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis broke the world indoor record in the pole vault, which
9	had stood since 2014, with a vault of 20.14 feet (6.17 meters) on February 8, 2020, at the
10	World Athletics Indoor Tour in Torun', Poland; and
11	WHEREAS, merely one week later, at the Indoor Grand Prix meet in Glasgow,
12	Scotland, on February 15, 2020, Mondo Duplantis vaulted beyond the world record height
13	again to clear 20.28 feet (6.18 meters) breaking his own record by a centimeter; and
14	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis, referred to in The New York Times as "the Tiger
15	Woods of pole vaulting", is clearly in excellent form to compete for a gold medal at the 2020
16	Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, later this year; and
17	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis had set as a goal being the world record holder in the
18	pole vault going into the Olympic games this summer, and he accomplished that by setting

1	these consecutive world record heights; and
2	WHEREAS, on his way to this world record, Mondo Duplantis garnered several titles
3	and records, including being named Track & Field High School Boys Athlete of the Year
4	in both 2017 and 2018, before moving on to LSU; and
5	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis, who set his first age group world best at age seven
6	and was a stellar athlete at LSU, appears to have a brilliant career ahead of him,
7	internationally; and
8	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis broke both records at indoor meets and told the
9	British Broadcasting Company (BBC), "I'm excited for the outdoor season"; and
10	WHEREAS, with back-to-back record-setting victories, Mondo Duplantis appears
11	poised to rise to the pinnacle of his sport of pole vaulting with an Olympic gold medal to
12	accompany his world records and to take his LSU and Louisiana fans along with him in that
13	quest for continued world pole vault dominance; and
14	WHEREAS, as the youngest child of LSU track and field stars, Greg and Helena
15	Hudlund Duplantis, a pole vaulter and a heptathlete and volleyball player, respectively, who
16	met while attending LSU, Mondo was destined to have both an interest in sports and some
17	innate athletic ability; and
18	WHEREAS, his parents say that Mondo Duplantis first tried pole vaulting as a
19	three-year-old at home, set his first age group world best at seven, and as of July 2015, he
20	held the world best height in all age groups from age seven to age twelve; and
21	WHEREAS, Mondo is coached by his father and the family has a pole vaulting pit
22	in the back yard of their home in Lafayette; and
23	WHEREAS, one could say that athletic competition is the family "business", with
24	his older brothers, Andreas, a pole vaulter, and Antoine, a baseball player (who became LSU
25	baseball's all-time hits leader last season) who attended LSU on athletic scholarships and
26	Antoine is currently signed with the New York Mets of Major League Baseball; and
27	WHEREAS, in competition in 2019, Mondo Duplantis, a seven-time Louisiana pole
28	vault champion, became the World Silver Medalist, the National Collegiate Athletic
29	Association Indoor Champion (NCAA), and the record holder at 19 feet 5 inches, the
30	Southeastern Conference (SEC) Field Athlete of the Year, both indoor and outdoor, the SEC

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1	Indoor Freshman Athlete of the Year, and in 2018 he was the European Champion and the
2	Under-Twenty World Champion, and is a widely-recognized prodigious talent in
3	international pole vault competition; and
4	WHEREAS, Mondo Duplantis is the collegiate indoor and outdoor record holder, he
5	holds two of the top three jumps in outdoor collegiate pole vault history, and four of the top
6	marks in collegiate history indoors, achieving a remarkably consistent record of excellence;
7	and
8	WHEREAS, these are but a few of the countless honors that Mondo Duplantis has
9	garnered in his still-young career, but his lengthy competitive history indicates that he will
10	be ready to compete for what he sees as the ultimate prize, an Olympic Gold Medal this
11	summer; and
12	WHEREAS, through his long and extremely successful career as a pole vaulter,
13	Mondo Duplantis, 2019 Southeastern Conference Male Rookie of the Year in Track & Field,
14	is focused on his athletic career, and is also a pleasant and personable young man, a world
15	champion, and likely to continue his athletic success on the international level for several
16	years to come.
17	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
18	commend Armand "Mondo" Duplantis on breaking the world indoor record in the pole vault
19	in successive international track and field competitions.
20	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
21	Armand Duplantis.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

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DIGEST 2020 Regular Session

Cortez

Commends Armand "Mondo" Duplantis on breaking the world indoor record in the pole vault in successive international track and field competitions.