

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 52

BY SENATORS SEABAUGH AND BOUDREAUX

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Nick Saban on being inducted into the 2025 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, Coach Nick Saban, one of the most successful and respected figures in the history of college football, has left an indelible mark on the game through nearly three decades of championship-level coaching, including a pivotal and transformational five-year tenure at Louisiana State University (LSU); and

WHEREAS, a native of West Virginia, Nick Saban attended Kent State University where he was a three-year letterman at safety from 1970 to 1972, played a year of baseball in 1972, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1973 and a master's degree in 1975; and

WHEREAS, Saban's head coaching journey began at the University of Toledo in 1990, where he had a record of nine wins and two losses and won a share of the Mid-American Conference (MAC) title in his lone season with the Rockets; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Nick Saban left collegiate football and became the defensive coordinator of the National Football League's (NFL) Cleveland Browns, and gained invaluable experience that would influence his coaching career; and

WHEREAS, he returned to coaching college football in 1995 as the head coach at Michigan State and revitalized the Spartans program while posting thirty-four wins, twenty-four losses, and one tie; landed four bowl appearances in his five seasons in East Lansing; and, in 1999, the Spartans finished the season ranked seventh in the final national rankings; and

WHEREAS, from 2000 to 2004, Coach Saban elevated the LSU Tigers from mediocrity to the pinnacle of college football and established a standard of excellence and discipline that would resonate far beyond his tenure; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saban compiled an overall record of forty-eight wins and sixteen losses, and he delivered LSU its first national championship since 1958 with a win in the 2003 BCS (Bowl Championship Series) National Championship over Oklahoma in the 2004 Sugar Bowl held in the Louisiana Superdome; and

WHEREAS, he led the Tigers to SEC titles in 2001 and 2003, three SEC West Division titles, a postseason record of four wins and two losses in bowl games, and four top-twenty-five final national rankings; and

WHEREAS, following his success at LSU and a two-year stint as head coach in the NFL with the Miami Dolphins, Coach Saban took the helm at the University of Alabama in 2007 and proceeded to build a college football dynasty; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saban became the first coach to win national titles at two different FBS (Football Bowl Subdivision) schools since the Associate Press (AP) poll inception in 1936, and he is one of only two coaches to win SEC championships at different schools; and

WHEREAS, Nick Saban won numerous national coach of the year awards throughout his career, including the AP Coach of the Year in 2003 and 2008, the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year in 2003 and 2008, the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year in 2014, the Walter Camp Coach of the Year in 2008 and 2018, and the Bobby Bowden Coach of the Year in 2009, 2011, and 2012; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saban never had a losing season in his twenty-eight years as a head coach and compiled an extraordinary record of two hundred ninety-two wins, seventy-one losses, and one tie; a .804 record; and

WHEREAS, Saban's expansive coaching tree includes more than thirty-five assistant head coaches who have gone on to become head coaches in college and the NFL, which demonstrates his profound mentorship and influence on the next generation of leaders in college football; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement from coaching in 2023, Nick Saban transitioned to broadcasting and joined ESPN's *College GameDay Built by the Home Depot* and earned a Sports Emmy Award nomination for his insightful commentary and analysis during the 2024 season; and

WHEREAS, in December 2024, it was announced that Nick Saban had been named as a member of the prestigious 2025 College Football Hall of Fame Class, a crowning honor to one of the greatest careers in the sport's history; and

WHEREAS, a master strategist and unparalleled recruiter, Nick Saban's legendary

career includes an unprecedented seven national titles and a list of accomplishments that cements his name in the pantheon of the greatest to have ever coached the game of football; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saban's transformative leadership at LSU will be celebrated by LSU Tiger fans and the people of Louisiana as a golden era of athletic success and pride.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Nick Saban on being inducted into the 2025 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Nick Saban.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES