SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY SENATORS SEABAUGH, ALLAIN, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, HENRY, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, MILLER AND PRICE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend George "Bobby" Soileau on being inducted into the 2025 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

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

WHEREAS, the 2025 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Class includes George "Bobby" Soileau; and

WHEREAS, George "Bobby" Soileau was born on March 6, 1936, in Ville Platte, Louisiana, and distinguished himself early in life as one of the most dominant figures in the history of Louisiana high school boxing; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Soileau captured his first state boxing title in 1950 as an eighth grader in the ninety-pound weight class and continued his championship dominance with titles in 1951 in the one hundred-pound weight class, 1952 in the one hundred ten-pound weight class, and 1954 in the one hundred twenty-five-pound weight class, and amassed a career record of ninety-six wins, two losses, and one tie; and

WHEREAS, despite a narrow and storied defeat in the 1953 state championship bout, widely regarded as one of the greatest matches in state history, Bobby earned the Francis G. Brink Trophy as the state's top prep boxer in his senior year and he was inducted into the inaugural class of the Louisiana High School Boxing Hall of Fame in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Bobby carried his talents to Louisiana State University (LSU), where he was awarded a boxing scholarship and achieved national prominence by capturing the one hundred twenty-five-pound featherweight title at the 1956 NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) National Championships, and helping LSU to a stellar seven wins, one loss and one tie dual-meet record that season; and WHEREAS, after LSU disbanded its boxing program and following a career-ending shoulder injury, Bobby transitioned into coaching and returned to his alma mater, Sacred Heart High School, where he became one of the most respected football coaches in the state; and

WHEREAS, over more than three decades at Sacred Heart High School, Bobby Soileau compiled a career coaching record of one hundred fifty-nine wins, one hundred losses, and nine ties; and

WHEREAS, he guided his teams to a share of nine district titles, and led Sacred Heart High School to become the 1967 Class B state champions and the 1971 Class 1A state runner-up; and

WHEREAS, Bobby was twice named Louisiana Sports Writers Association Coach of the Year and he was deservedly inducted into the Louisiana High School Sports Hall of Fame in 1988, further solidifying his legacy in Louisiana athletics; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Bobby Soileau has exemplified the highest ideals of sportsmanship, perseverance, and leadership both in and out of the ring and field, serving as a role model to countless young athletes and community members throughout his life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend George "Bobby" Soileau 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 Bobby Soileau.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES