

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 48

BY SENATORS SEABAUGH, BOUDREAUX, CATHEY, EDMONDS, HENRY,
JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, LUNEAU, MIGUEZ, MORRIS,
PRESSLY, PRICE, SELDERS AND STINE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Gil LeBreton upon receiving the 2026 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2026 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

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 talent worthy of being named to the hall of fame; and

WHEREAS, the Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious honor offered to sports media in the state and recipients are carefully chosen after an extensive deliberation by a forty-member expert panel based on their professional accomplishments in local, state, regional, and national arenas; and

WHEREAS, Gil LeBreton is the recipient of the 2026 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and a member of the 2026 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class; and

WHEREAS, Gil LeBreton, a native of New Orleans and graduate of Louisiana State University, has enjoyed a sportswriting career spanning more than five decades and has earned widespread recognition as one of the most respected and accomplished sports journalists in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. LeBreton began his career with *The Times-Picayune* in his hometown of New Orleans and later served as a beat reporter covering Louisiana State University athletics and the New Orleans Saints for both *The Times-Picayune* and the *Baton Rouge Morning Advocate*; and

WHEREAS, after honorable service in the United States Army during the Vietnam

War, Mr. LeBreton returned home to Louisiana and earned a degree in journalism from Louisiana State University, where he also spent three years working in the university's Sports Information Office; and

WHEREAS, Mr. LeBreton went on to serve for thirty-seven years as an award-winning sports columnist with the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, where his commentary and reporting earned national acclaim and cemented his reputation as one of the premier voices in sports journalism; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his remarkable career, Mr. LeBreton covered some of the most significant sporting events in the world, including twenty-six Super Bowls, thirteen World Series, sixteen Olympic Games, sixteen NCAA Basketball Final Fours, the FIFA World Cup, the Masters Tournament, the Tour de France, the NBA Finals, the Stanley Cup Finals, and the Wimbledon Championships; and

WHEREAS, his work carried him across the globe, covering sporting events in France, Spain, Germany, Norway, Greece, the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Argentina, and Canada, as well as in forty of the fifty United States; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Mr. LeBreton conducted notable one-on-one interviews with many legendary figures in sports and public life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. LeBreton's reporting from the Olympic Games earned numerous state and national honors, and his early reporting for *The Times-Picayune* on Louisiana Olympic hopefuls ahead of the 1976 Montreal Games was recognized by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association as the top series of the year, while his column marking the one-year anniversary of the World Football League's demise was named the LSWA Story of the Year; and

WHEREAS, he remains the only sportswriter to be named Sportswriter of the Year by the National Sports Media Association in both Louisiana and Texas, a testament to the exceptional quality and influence of his work; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2024, Mr. LeBreton was further honored when the LSU Manship School of Mass Communication inducted him into its Hall of Fame, recognizing his profound impact on the field of journalism and his enduring connection to Louisiana State University.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Gil LeBreton upon receiving the 2026 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2026 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Gil LeBreton.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES