

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY SENATOR LUNEAU

PUBLIC BUILDINGS/GROUNDS. Requests the LSU Board of Supervisors to study naming the LSU Gymnastics Training Facility in honor of Coach D-D Breaux.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors to name the LSU
3 Gymnastics Training Center for Legendary LSU Gymnastics Coach "D-D" Breaux.

4 WHEREAS, Sara "D-D" Breaux was born and raised in Donaldsonville, Louisiana
5 and competed as a gymnast headed for the Olympics before an injury changed the course of
6 her career; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1977 she became the first full-time LSU Women's Gymnastics Coach
8 where she found a program with no resources, little respect and an uphill battle for survival;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux fought many battles that included threatened program
11 elimination, elimination of her assistant coaches and staff, no or little promotional support,
12 no basic resources such as competition leotards, and an inadequate and dangerous facility
13 for the first 39 years of her career; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux fought for all Women's Sports and Athletes on the LSU
15 campus; and

16 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux knew that in order to establish a championship program
17 that would be sustainable, she needed a world class facility, community support and
18 attendance at her meets and resources to recruit and compete promising athletes; and

1 WHEREAS, with the appointment of Skip Bertman as athletic director, support for
2 the program began to build; and

3 WHEREAS, in order to compete with her SEC and national competitors, Coach
4 Breaux had to have the same amount and quality of equipment as other institutions did in
5 order to maximize the practice time on each event allowed by the NCAA and so she sought
6 out every possible source of funds necessary for a competitive facility and equipment; and

7 WHEREAS, in 2014, she convinced the Tiger Athletic Foundation and the school's
8 athletic director to have a groundbreaking to convince donors that a facility would be built
9 and that would assist to attract donors and instill a belief in the community that this would
10 be done; and

11 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux's efforts were successful in bringing a world class facility
12 to LSU which was celebrated on February 16, 2016, with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the
13 LSU Gymnastics Training Center; and

14 WHEREAS, for decades Coach Breaux pursued her vision for attendance by
15 appearing on the Buckskin Bill Show for a segment on exercise at 6:00 a.m., placing
16 schedules at cash registers throughout the city, handing out tickets to gymnastic events in
17 grocery store parking lots all in an effort to go from a few hundred gymnastic fans to sellout
18 crowds; and

19 WHEREAS, as attendance grew, she saw her vision realized and culminated when
20 the gymnastics program had its first sell-out crowd of 13,296 on March 14, 2016, for a meet
21 against Alabama which was about one month after the above-mentioned ribbon cutting
22 ceremony. On January 19, 2018, the program had a standing room only meet with 13,729
23 in attendance; and

24 WHEREAS, it is undeniable that the championship program and the world class
25 facility that exist today is a result of the tenacity, vision, courage and unshakeable
26 enthusiasm of Coach "D-D" Breaux; and

27 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux's unwavering dedication to her mission and the university
28 she loves enabled her to overcome many obstacles to assist in developing a gymnastics
29 program whose numerous achievements in her 43 year tenure include: qualifying for 30
30 NCAA Championships, winning 15 Individual National Championships, winning 19

1 Regional titles, receiving 266 All-American Honors, receiving 160 Scholastic
2 All-Americans, winning 6 SEC Championships, producing 22 SEC Champions with 44 SEC
3 Titles; and

4 WHEREAS, during her last five years of coaching, the LSU Gymnastics team earned
5 National Championship Runners Up three times (2016, 2017, 2019); and

6 WHEREAS, in Coach Breaux's last three seasons, LSU won the regular season
7 competition and the SEC Championship (2017, 2018 and 2019); and

8 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux has been inducted into numerous Halls of Fame
9 including the Louisiana Sportswriters Hall of Fame, named an SEC Trailblazer for Women's
10 Athletics and was the National Coach of the Year two times, SEC Coach of the Year six
11 times and Regional Coach of the Year nine times; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2018 LPB named "D-D" Breaux a Louisiana legend acknowledging
13 her creation of a championship team and her efforts to build a world class gymnastics'
14 facility; and

15 WHEREAS, four years after the world class facility was opened in 2016 and after
16 securing sellout crowds, a national powerhouse status for the LSU gymnastics program and
17 endowed scholarships, Coach Breaux believed the program was in a sustainable position at
18 LSU and retired in 2020; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2022, after her retirement from coaching, the LSU Alumni
20 Association bestowed their highest honor on Coach Breaux by naming her the LSU Alumna
21 of the Year; and

22 WHEREAS, this legislature and governors have honored her and her teams for their
23 many accomplishments; and

24 WHEREAS, Coach Breaux continues to serve as an ambassador for the LSU
25 Athletics Department and volunteers her time as Chair of the Advisory Council for the
26 Department of Human Science and Education, member of the Ready Start Network in
27 Ascension Parish for Early Learning, member of the LSU College of Coast and Environment
28 Advisory Council, the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, and serves on the board of
29 Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge; and

30 WHEREAS, in 2025, ESPN chose Coach Breaux's unique and inspiring story for

