

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 139

BY SENATOR MILLS AND REPRESENTATIVE HUVAL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Louisiana native Jake C. Delhomme for being selected to the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, Jake C. Delhomme was born on January 10, 1975, in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, to Jerry and Marcia Delhomme; and

WHEREAS, he married his high school sweetheart in 2000, the former Keri Melancon, and they have two daughters, Lauren Elizabeth who was born December 17, 2001, and Lindsey Marie who was born February 25, 2007; and

WHEREAS, after playing as an All-State quarterback and defensive back at Teurlings Catholic High School, Mr. Delhomme played college football for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, then named the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL), as the only true freshman quarterback to become a starter for a Division I school in 1993; and

WHEREAS, the collegiate passer efficiency rating of Mr. Delhomme was second among the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) for freshmen quarterbacks; and

WHEREAS, on the USL football team he played alongside future National Football League (NFL) wide receiver Brandon Stokley, and offensive lineman Anthony Clement, and was named the all-time passing collegiate leader in yards and touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Mr. Delhomme ranked twenty-second in NCAA history for passing yards, and twenty-eighth in total offense; and

WHEREAS, after the 1997 NFL draft, he signed with the New Orleans Saints as an undrafted free agent, and was assigned to the NFL Amsterdam Admirals in Europe; and

WHEREAS, following his success with the Admirals as a backup quarterback to future NFL and Super Bowl MVP, Kurt Warner, Mr. Delhomme returned to the New Orleans Saints as their full-time third string quarterback, and in his first NFL start in 1999, against the Dallas Cowboys, he threw two touchdowns en route to a New Orleans Saints victory; and

WHEREAS, from 2003 to 2009, Mr. Delhomme wore number seventeen after the date of his first daughter's birth; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, during the first game of the NFL season against the Jacksonville Jaguars, the Panthers were down seventeen to zero, and Mr. Delhomme took control at the last half of the game; he was able to throw three touchdowns the last of which was on fourth-down with just sixteen seconds left in the game leading the Panthers to a comeback victory; and

WHEREAS, in his first season, he started fifteen games with the Carolina Panthers, throwing for nineteen touchdowns and more than three thousand yards; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Mr. Delhomme started all sixteen games for the Carolina Panthers, throwing twenty-nine touchdowns and completing three hundred ten passes for three thousand eight hundred eighty-six yards; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, he became the Carolina Panther franchise all-team leader with sixty regular season starts and thirty-five victories by a quarterback; he established a team record of one hundred fifty consecutive pass attempts without an interception; and

WHEREAS, opening the 2006 NFL season, he completed more than two hundred sixty passes with only eleven interceptions achieving the second highest pass completion percentage in team history; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, he started his NFL season opener as the Carolina Panther quarterback, marking the fourth consecutive season that Carolina fielded the same starting quarterback in an opening game; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, he lead the Panthers to the NFC South title, engineering four fourth-quarter come-from-behind victories, and five second half come-from-behind wins; and

WHEREAS, in the 2008 NFC Divisional Playoffs against the Arizona Cardinals, Mr. Delhomme started his eighth career post season contest, completing seventeen passes for more than two hundred passing yards; and

WHEREAS, he had twelve victories in his 2008 season, the most ever by a Carolina Panther quarterback in a single season; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Delhomme established a Panther club record with an average passing gain of seven point nine yards, and led NFL quarterbacks with seven drives during the regular season in which Carolina scored decisive points inside the game's final two minutes of regulation or overtime; and

WHEREAS, in Super Bowl XXXVIII against the New England Patriots, Mr.

Delhomme threw three touchdowns and completed the game with three hundred twenty-three passing yards; and in a dramatic fourth quarter, he threw an eighty-five yard touchdown pass, the longest offensive play in Super Bowl history; and

WHEREAS, since playing in his first Pro Bowl in 2005, no other NFL quarterback has more game winning or tying drives in the final two minutes of professional football; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Delhomme played for the Cleveland Browns in 2010, and the Houston Texans in 2011; and

WHEREAS, along with racing, owning, and training thoroughbred horses, Mr. Delhomme has garnered popularity as a pitchman for the Cajun fast food restaurant, Bojangles, has performed SunCom telephone commercials, and has done numerous public service announcements for Civitan International, an organization of volunteer businessmen determined to make a difference in their communities by collecting food for homeless shelters, volunteering at local retirement homes, or helping those with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, selected by a thirty-five member Louisiana Sports Writers Association committee in October 2014, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame named Jake Delhomme as an inductee to be officially enshrined on June 27, 2015, in Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, as a part of the 2015 induction class, Jake C. Delhomme's extraordinary high school, college, and professional football career will be showcased in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Museum.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Louisiana native Jake C. Delhomme for being selected to the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jake C. Delhomme.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES