

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 45

BY SENATORS BERNARD, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CORTEZ, FIELDS, HARRIS, HENRY, HEWITT, JOHNS, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, TALBOT, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Charles "Peanut" Tillman on being named to the 2020 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame induction class.

WHEREAS, Charles "Peanut" Tillman was born on February 23, 1981, in Chicago, Illinois, and attended the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL); as a Ragin' Cajun he was a four-year starter from 1999-2002, and earned first-team All-Sun Belt Conference honors in 2001 and 2002; and

WHEREAS, he was also an All-Independent pick in 2000 in the Cajuns' final year before the Sun Belt began football competition, and was an Associated Press honorable mention All-American selection in 2002, finishing his college career with twelve interceptions, the fifth-most in school history, and two hundred eighty-four total tackles, the second-most by any Ragin' Cajun defensive back, along with seven fumble recoveries and three blocked punts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tillman led the Ragin' Cajuns in interceptions three consecutive years from 2000 to 2002 and is one of only eight players to have his jersey retired; and

WHEREAS, following a standout career at ULL, he was a second-round National Football League (NFL) draft pick who played thirteen seasons at cornerback with his hometown team, the Chicago Bears, from 2003 to 2014, and with the Carolina Panthers in 2014 before retiring due to injuries at the age of thirty-four; and

WHEREAS, while in the NFL, Mr. Tillman played in one hundred sixty-eight games, with one hundred sixty-four starts, and had thirty-eight career interceptions for six hundred seventy-five yards, taking eight of those picks back for touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, he finished his career with nine hundred eleven total tackles, notching a career-high ninety-nine in 2011 when he was voted to play in the first of two consecutive Pro Bowls; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tillman also forced forty-four fumbles, the sixth in NFL history, with ten of them occurring in 2012 when he was named an Associated Press first-team All-Pro; and

WHEREAS, his four forced fumbles against the Tennessee Titans on November 4, 2003, is a NFL single-game record, earning him the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year Award and the *Sports Illustrated* Rookie of the Year honor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tillman broke up one hundred forty-one passes during his career, with sixteen occurring in 2012 which is one fewer than his personal-best of seventeen in 2008, and he had five interceptions three times in his career in 2005, 2006, and 2010; and

WHEREAS, while playing with the Chicago Bears, the team won the National Football Conference (NFC) title by defeating the New Orleans Saints in 2006 and advanced to Super Bowl XLI against the Indianapolis Colts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tillman is the Chicago Bears' all-time leader with forty-two forced fumbles, six hundred seventy-five interception return yards, and eight interception return touchdowns, as well as the second all-time leader with thirty-six interceptions; and

WHEREAS, he won the 2013 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award which is the league's only award that recognizes excellence on and off the field with an emphasis on a player's contributions to his community and to society in general; and

WHEREAS, the successful career of Charles "Peanut" Tillman has rightly earned him a place among the many greats in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Charles "Peanut" Tillman on being named to the 2020 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Charles "Peanut" Tillman.