HLS 13RS-2660 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY REPRESENTATIVES KLECKLEY, ARMES, DANAHAY, FRANKLIN, GEYMANN, GUINN, HENSGENS, HILL, AND HOWARD

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Louis Bonnette, sports information director at McNeese State University, upon receipt of the 2013 Mr. Louisiana Basketball award

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To commend Louis Bonnette upon his receipt of the 2013 Mr. Louisiana Basketball award
3	and to record for posterity his numerous contributions to McNeese State University.
4	WHEREAS, Louis Bonnette is only the second sports information director to receive
5	the Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award, the most prestigious honor presented by the Louisiana
6	Association of Basketball Coaches, and it is appropriate to congratulate him upon this
7	special recognition; and
8	WHEREAS the Mr. Louisiana Basketball Award is presented annually to someone
9	who has made a significant, long-term contribution to the game of basketball at any level in
10	Louisiana; and
11	WHEREAS, Louis Bonnette was born in Pineville, Louisiana, and graduated with
12	a bachelor's degree in journalism from Louisiana Tech in 1963, and has been honored both
13	statewide and nationally for his work; and
14	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette began his journalism career as a sportswriter for the
15	Beaumont Enterprise and three years later he joined McNeese State University as the sports
16	information director; and
17	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has served two terms as president of the Louisiana Sports
18	Writers Association and received the Louisiana Sports Writers Association's prestigious Mac
19	Russo Award in 1995; and

1	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette founded the McNeese Hall of Fame, serving as its
2	chairman until his retirement in 2012, was inducted into the College Sports Information
3	Directors of America Hall of Fame in 2009, the Southland Conference Hall of Honor in
4	2007, and received the Louisiana Sports Writers Association Distinguished Service Award
5	in Sports Journalism in 2002 and the Scoop Hudgins outstanding Sports Information
6	Director award from the All-American Football Foundation in 2008; and
7	WHEREAS, the McNeese Cowboys football field is named in his honor and the
8	Southland Conference recently named its sports media award in his honor and selected him
9	to receive the first such award; and
10	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has worked with eight McNeese basketball coaches,
11	including legendary head coach Ralph O. Ward, who is a member of the Louisiana Sports
12	Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame, and the McNeese Hall of Fame and
13	was named Mr. Louisiana Basketball in 1977; and
14	WHEREAS, as sports information director, Mr. Bonnette worked to bring the story
15	of Cowboy athletics to the state, region, and nation, and promoted numerous McNeese
16	players to all-American honors, including Hall of Famer Joe Dumars and more recently,
17	Patrick Richard; and
18	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette was part of seven conference championships, helped
19	promote thirty-one first team all-conference selections, nine conference players of the year,
20	six conference coaches of the year, and four all-Americans; and
21	WHEREAS, while at McNeese, Mr. Bonnette did not miss a Cowboy football game,
22	working a national record of five hundred twenty-seven consecutive games and was also a
23	part of six hundred forty-four basketball wins, nine twenty-win seasons, and eight national
24	postseason appearances by the basketball team; and
25	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette retired from McNeese State University in 2012 after a
26	distinguished forty-six year career in which he was recognized nationally for his news
27	releases, game programs, and media guides; and
28	WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has written a golf column for the Lake Charles American
29	Press continuously since 1970 and also writes a weekly outdoor column; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has served as a mentor and role model for many 2 journalists and coaches, and few people in college athletics, either as administrators or as 3 coaches, can match Mr. Bonnette's dedication and commitment to his craft; and 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette brings a deep sense of pride and honor to his family, the 5 students, faculty and staff, and alumni of McNeese State University, and to all of the friends 6 he has made throughout the course of his highly productive career; and 7 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette represents all that is good about Louisiana and merits a 8 sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for his many outstanding accomplishments 9 as he is once again recognized for his remarkable career at McNeese State University; and 10 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana sincerely 11 wishes to acknowledge Mr. Bonnette for the many contributions he has made to the sports 12 communications field, McNeese State University, and the state of Louisiana. 13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 14 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Louis Bonnette upon his receipt of the 2013 15 Mr. Louisiana Basketball award from the Louisiana Association of Basketball Coaches, does 16 hereby commend him for a forty-six year career of very distinguished, professional service 17 to McNeese State University, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable 18 accomplishments and manifold contributions to McNeese State University and the state of 19 Louisiana, and does hereby extend to Mr. Bonnette best wishes for continued health and 20 happiness. 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted 22 to Mr. Louis Bonnette.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Kleckley HR No. 101

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