

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 75

BY SENATOR LONG AND REPRESENTATIVE COX

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Avery Johnson on being named to the 2015 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class.

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, skills, and talents worthy of being named to the hall of fame; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class includes basketball legend Avery Johnson; and

WHEREAS, born on March 25, 1965, Avery Johnson began his distinguished basketball career at St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he led the team to a thirty-five to zero record and won the Class 4A Louisiana State Championship; and

WHEREAS, during college, he played for Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, where in his senior year in 1988, he led the NCAA Division I with an all-time record of 13.3 assists per game, and became the only men's Division I player to average double figures in points and assists in the same season; and

WHEREAS, upon graduating in 1988, Mr. Johnson spent a summer season with the United States Basketball League Palm Beach Stingrays, but was shortly thereafter signed by the Seattle Supersonics which began a successful sixteen year National Basketball Association career with six teams, most notably the San Antonio Spurs from 1994-2001, where he led the team to win the 1999 championship NBA title; and

WHEREAS, during his years on the court he became known as "The Little General" for his relatively small stature; and

WHEREAS, he retired from playing in 2004, and began a successful coaching career, first leading the Dallas Mavericks, where he was named NBA Coach of the Year in 2006, followed by a career leading the New Jersey Nets from 2010-2012; and

WHEREAS, in April 2015, the Little General was named the head coach of the University of Alabama basketball team; and

WHEREAS, the distinguished career of Avery Johnson, both as basketball player and coach, has earned him a place among the many greats in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Avery Johnson on being named to the 2015 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Avery Johnson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES