

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 90

BY SENATOR LONG AND REPRESENTATIVES TERRY BROWN AND COX

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Doug Ireland upon his retirement as the sports information director for Northwestern State University of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Doug Ireland's passion for sports journalism began when he was an undergraduate at Northwestern State University of Louisiana (NSU) in 1981; he worked as chief of the *Shreveport Times* Natchitoches Bureau coordinating news coverage of an eight parish region along the Red River; and

WHEREAS, from 1982 through 1985, he was assistant sports information director at the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL), which is now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, working with a men's basketball program that made three straight postseason tournament appearances; and

WHEREAS, he won numerous College Sports Information Directors of America writing awards while at USL; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ireland was the sports editor of the *Natchitoches Times* from 1985 to 1986, and attended graduate school at Northeast Louisiana University before joining the *Alexandria Town Talk* sports staff in 1987; and

WHEREAS, while at the *Town Talk*, he covered both NSU and LSU sports and won fifteen writing awards from the Louisiana Sports Writers' Association; and

WHEREAS, he began his career as the sports information director for NSU in January 1989; and

WHEREAS, in that position he coordinated publicity efforts for the fourteen intercollegiate sports teams through local, regional, and national media outlets in print, broadcast, television, and internet; and

WHEREAS, the 1992 *NSU Demons Football Media Guide* won "Best in the Nation"

in the Football Championship Subdivision from the College Sports Information Directors of America; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, Mr. Ireland was appointed by NSU President Dr. Randall Webb to serve a two-year term on the inaugural University Planning Council; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, he was awarded honorary membership in the Graduate N Club at NSU by the university's group of athletic lettermen for his service to NSU and its athletic program; and in 2003, he was awarded full membership; and

WHEREAS, since 2000, he has earned thirty-three Louisiana Sports Writers' Association (LSWA) awards, including the 2017 LSWA Story of the Year, and a majority of these awards came from his stories of NSU athletes, coaches, and support staff members; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the LSWA presented its prestigious Mac Russo Award to Mr. Ireland for his contributions to the association; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, he was awarded the Northwest Louisiana's National Football Foundation "Distinguished American" award; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, he was honored by the *Alexandria Town Talk* by being named the CENLA Sportsman of the Year; and

WHEREAS, since April 1990, he has served in a volunteer role as the chairman of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, his volunteer efforts with the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame has lead to the development and construction of the \$23 million Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum, which opened to international architectural acclaim in June 2013; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ireland was chosen as the 2016 recipient of the Southland Conference Louis Bonnette Sports Media Award.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Doug Ireland for his numerous years of exemplary public service, congratulate him upon his retirement from Northwestern State University of Louisiana, and express best wishes to him in all of his future endeavors.

SCR NO. 90

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
Doug Ireland.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES