

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATOR BERNARD

COMMENDATIONS. Commends "Sweet" Lou Dunbar on being inducted into the 2020 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate "Sweet" Lou Dunbar for his induction into the Louisiana  
3 Sports Hall of Fame due to his career as an outstanding basketball player for Webster  
4 High School in Minden, Louisiana, the University of Houston, and the Harlem  
5 Globetrotters.

6 WHEREAS, "Sweet" Lou Dunbar was born on August 8, 1953, in Minden,  
7 Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, he began his basketball career at Webster High School in Minden and  
9 went on to play basketball at the University of Houston on an athletic scholarship where he  
10 earned the title of All-American; and

11 WHEREAS, while in high school "Sweet" Lou, who stood six feet nine inches,  
12 played point guard, forward, and center when needed throughout his four years in the  
13 all-black athletic association; and

14 WHEREAS, in his senior season, "Sweet" Lou's scoring average was twenty-six  
15 points per game, a team record of thirty-four and one, and the Class AA state title along with  
16 being named "Outstanding Player" in the top twenty state tournament, "Outstanding" on the  
17 Class AA All-State and All-prep teams, and "Mr. Basketball" in the state all-star game,  
18 scoring a record thirty-three points; and

1           WHEREAS, while he had many college offers to play basketball, he picked the  
2 University of Houston, where he averaged twenty plus points per game each year and totaled  
3 one thousand seven hundred sixty-five points in seventy-nine games; and

4           WHEREAS, in 1975, the Philadelphia 76ers selected "Sweet" Lou with the  
5 fifty-ninth pick in the fourth round of the NBA draft, however, he never played in the NBA,  
6 opting to play professionally in Europe where he helped his team win a national title; and

7           WHEREAS, upon returning to the states, and playing in a summer league for the  
8 Houston Rockets, a scout for the Globetrotters saw what he liked in "Sweet" Lou, made an  
9 offer, and for twenty-seven seasons it was "Showtime" for "Sweet" Lou starring for the  
10 world's most famous basketball team; and

11           WHEREAS, during his playing career with the Globetrotters, "Sweet" Lou was  
12 known as the showman, the "clown prince", the "garrulous, loud, joking center of attention,  
13 ball-handler extraordinaire, and chief protagonist; and

14           WHEREAS, he has been involved with the Globetrotters for more than forty years  
15 as a player, coach, and director of player personnel; and

16           WHEREAS, "Sweet" Lou has interacted with fans of all types: royalty, presidents,  
17 and prime ministers while traveling three times around the world, playing in front of more  
18 than ten million people on six continents including in Rome, as he stood alongside Pope  
19 John Paul II on November 29, 2000, when the team named him an honorary Globetrotter;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, in 2007, he was honored as a Globetrotters' "Legend", a year later in  
22 2008 he was inducted into the University of Houston Athletics Hall of Honor, and on  
23 February 15, 2020, his Globetrotters number forty-one jersey was retired.

24           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that heartfelt congratulations are extended to  
25 "Sweet" Lou Dunbar for his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame due to his  
26 career as an outstanding basketball player for Webster High School in Minden, Louisiana,  
27 the University of Houston, and the Harlem Globetrotters.

28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
29 "Sweet" Lou Dunbar.

