

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY SENATOR BERNARD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Jahri Evans on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

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, skill, and talent worthy of being named to the Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class includes Jahri Evans; and

WHEREAS, Jahri Evans is regarded as one of the best offensive lineman in New Orleans Saints' history, enjoying a tremendous career with six Pro Bowls and four All-Pro teams; and

WHEREAS, originally from Philadelphia, he was a fourth-round, one hundred sixth pick overall from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, which he attended on an academic scholarship; and

WHEREAS, classified as a Division II "Little All-American" as a junior and senior in college, he was penciled in as a starter at right guard from day one of Coach Sean Payton's first season with the Saints in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Jahri Evans, a six-foot-four, three hundred sixteen pound road-grader, made the Pro Football Writers of America All-Rookie team that season while starting all sixteen games for the Saints, who reached the National Football Conference (NFC) Championship game; and

WHEREAS, he went on to start one hundred fourteen games of his career as right guard before an ankle injury sidelined him for a week three game in 2013; and

WHEREAS, along the way, he became one of the National Football League's (NFL) top interior linemen, making the Pro Bowl six consecutive seasons from 2009 - when he helped the Saints win Super Bowl XLIV - to 2014, while earning Associated Press first-team All-Pro accolades from 2009-2012.; and

WHEREAS, his six Pro Bowl appearances are tied for third in Saints' history with Rickey Jackson and Morten Andersen behind only Drew Brees' twelve appearances and Willie Roaf's seven appearances; and

WHEREAS, three months after the Saints won the Super Bowl, the franchise made Jahri Evans the highest-paid guard in NFL history with a seven-year, \$56.7 million contract; money well spent since he continued to be a stalwart for one of the league's most productive offenses while blocking for record-setting quarterback Drew Brees; and

WHEREAS, Jahri wound up starting all one hundred sixty-nine games he played for the Saints, missing just five games due to injury, and started all ten playoff games; and

WHEREAS, in April 2020, he was named to the NFL's All-Decade team of the 2010s; and

WHEREAS, Jahri Evans played his final season of professional football with the Green Bay Packers in 2017.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jahri Evans on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jahri Evans.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE