

2022 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

BY SENATOR BERNARD

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Garland Forman Jr. upon receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Garland Forman Jr. upon receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service Award in  
3 Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana Sports  
4 Hall of Fame.

5 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana, each year  
6 collaborates with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association in selecting a limited number of  
7 sports figures who embody the character, skill, and talent worthy of being named to the Hall  
8 of Fame; and

9 WHEREAS, the Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious honor offered  
10 to sports media in the state and recipients are carefully chosen after an extensive deliberation  
11 by a forty-member expert panel based on their professional accomplishments in local, state,  
12 regional, and national arenas; and

13 WHEREAS, Garland Forman Jr., an influential central Louisiana reporter, editor, and  
14 publisher, has been selected for the 2022 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism  
15 from the Louisiana Sports Writers Association and a member of the 2022 Louisiana Sports  
16 Hall of Fame Induction class; and

17 WHEREAS, for more than four decades, Forman has developed a reputation for  
18 being one of the most honored, well-respected sports journalists in the state of Louisiana;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, a native of Pineville, Louisiana, Forman attended Louisiana College in  
3 the late 1970s and started reporting while he was a student; and

4 WHEREAS, following college, Forman started doing freelance work for both the  
5 *Eunice News* and the *Ville Platte Gazette*; and

6 WHEREAS, Forman was named the managing editor of the *Bunkie Record* in 1987  
7 and remained there until the fall of 2018 when he was named the publisher of the *Ville Platte*  
8 *Gazette* and six other papers; and

9 WHEREAS, during the thirty-one years Forman was at the *Bunkie Record*, he served  
10 as the primary reporter for high school athletics and outdoors; and

11 WHEREAS, in addition to his responsibilities as the managing editor, high school  
12 beat reporter, outdoors writer, and photographer, Forman covered the Louisiana State  
13 University (LSU) Tigers and other college programs throughout the state; and

14 WHEREAS, during his tenure at the *Bunkie Record*, he received over four hundred  
15 Louisiana Press Association (LPA) awards for his writing including over an estimated one  
16 hundred fifty awards in sports writing, sports photography, and layout; and

17 WHEREAS, Forman is called a "country journalist" by many; he is known for his  
18 tireless work with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association (LSWA) and the Louisiana Press  
19 Association (LPA); and he is the only person to serve as president of both organizations; and

20 WHEREAS, Forman has served on numerous LSWA All-State meeting boards and  
21 he was awarded the 2005 LSWA Mac Russo Award for his contributions to the progress and  
22 ideals of the LSWA; and

23 WHEREAS, Forman has served, and continues to serve, on the Louisiana Sports Hall  
24 of Fame selection committee; and

25 WHEREAS, Garland Forman Jr., currently oversees thirteen weekly newspapers for  
26 Louisiana State Newspapers group across north and central Louisiana.

27 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
28 does hereby commend Garland Forman Jr., upon receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service  
29 Award in Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana  
30 Sports Hall of Fame.

