

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY SENATOR MORRIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Andrew Whitworth on winning Superbowl LVI with the Los Angeles Rams, and on being named the 2021 National Football League (NFL) Walter Payton Man of the Year.

WHEREAS, the Walter Payton Man of the Year award was established in 1970 and recognizes an NFL player for his excellence on and off the field; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award was renamed in 1999 after the late Hall of Fame running back, Walter Payton; and

WHEREAS, the Walter Payton award represents the best of the NFL's commitment to philanthropy and community impact; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Whitworth, a Monroe native and LSU alumnus, has gained national recognition for his sixteen-year NFL career, and is now the oldest tackle to win a superbowl; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whitworth has received numerous individual and team awards for his on-field performance including four Pro-Bowl invitations, two first-team All-Pro awards, and most recently, the Lombardi Trophy; and

WHEREAS, throughout his incredible career, Andrew Whitworth has committed himself to giving back to local communities, and he has selflessly contributed his resources to effect positive change in the world; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whitworth launched the "Big Whit Homes for LA Families" at the beginning of the 2020-2021 NFL season and pledged to donate \$20,000 after each Rams home game; he also made donations to repair homes in his native state of Louisiana and moved Angelenos facing housing insecurity into more affordable homes; he also works with nonprofits in Los Angeles to aid people in paying rent, buying groceries, and putting down payments on and furnishing homes; and

WHEREAS, after the devastation wrought by Hurricane Ida, Mr. Whitworth joined with Rebuilding Together to assist with essential home repairs to damaged homes; and

WHEREAS, in accepting the 2021 Walter Payton Man of the Year Award, Mr. Whitworth used the occasion as a call-to-action to his teammates, colleagues, and viewers to invest in local communities; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Whitworth is undeniably an elite level football player, but his contributions to local communities far outweigh the impact of his on-field performances; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is truly blessed and proud to call him one of its sons.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Andrew Whitworth on winning Superbowl LVI with the Los Angeles Rams, and on being named the 2021 National Football League (NFL) Walter Payton Man of the Year, and does hereby recognize his unwavering dedication to local causes, and thanks him for his undying commitment to the state of Louisiana and to the underprivileged residents of Los Angeles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Andrew Whitworth.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE