

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY SENATOR BERNARD

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Matt Forte on being inducted into the 2023 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Matt Forte on being inducted into the 2023 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall
3 of Fame.

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

8 WHEREAS, the 2023 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class includes Matt
9 Forte; and

10 WHEREAS, Matt Forte grew up in Slidell, Louisiana, and graduated from Slidell
11 High School in 2004, where he was a letterman in football and track & field; and

12 WHEREAS, Matt played National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division
13 I college football at Tulane University in New Orleans; in 2007, he was the only Bowl
14 Championship Series non-automatic qualification conference athlete to be a semifinalist for
15 both the Maxwell and Doak Walker Awards, named to the Walter Camp Player of the Year
16 List, and one of just three players nationally named to all three lists; and

17 WHEREAS, Matt had a breakout season as a senior with a school-record 2,127
18 rushing yards and averaged 5.9 yards per carry with a school-record of 23 touchdowns; and

1 WHEREAS, a two-time All-Conference USA pick, Matt garnered attention at the
2 2008 Senior Bowl in Mobile, Alabama, walking away with the Overall Most Valuable Player
3 award and leading with 59 yards rushing on eight carries, four receptions for 38 yards and
4 a tackle on special teams; and

5 WHEREAS, the Chicago Bears drafted Matt in the second round of the 2008
6 National Football League (NFL) Draft as the 44th overall selection, the sixth running back
7 taken that year; and

8 WHEREAS, Matt was one of the NFL's top dual threat running backs during his 10-
9 year career with the Chicago Bears (2008 to 2015) and New York Jets (2016 and 2017); and

10 WHEREAS, Matt made two Pro Bowl appearances (2011 and 2013), was named to
11 the 2008 NFL All-Rookie Team, named Diet Pepsi NFL Rookie of the Week in 2008,
12 National Football Conference Player of the Week in 2010, became a five-time 1,000-yard
13 rusher, and is one of three running backs in NFL history with 1,000 rushing yards and 100
14 catches in a season; and

15 WHEREAS, Matt was ranked 34th by the Chicago Bears on their list of the top 100
16 greatest Bears of all-time; he holds three franchise rookie season records: most rush attempts
17 (316), most receptions (63), most yards from scrimmage (1,715), and shares franchise
18 records with most receptions, postseason game, and games with at least three touchdowns
19 in a season; and

20 WHEREAS, on February 28, 2018, at the age of 32, Matt Forte announced his
21 retirement from the NFL after playing for 10 seasons, and on April 23, 2018, the Chicago
22 Bears honored Matt Forte with a signed ceremonial one-day contract to retire as a member
23 of the Bears.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
25 does hereby commend Matt Forte on being inducted into the 2023 class of the Louisiana
26 Sports Hall of Fame.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Matt
28 Forte.

