

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

BY SENATOR BERNARD

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Lori Lyons upon receiving the 2023 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2023 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Lori Lyons upon receiving the 2023 Distinguished Service Award in Sports  
3 Journalism and on being inducted into the 2023 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall  
4 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 professional accomplishments in local, state,  
12 regional, and national arenas; and

13 WHEREAS, Lori Lyons, an acclaimed south Louisiana prep writer, has been selected  
14 for the 2023 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism from the Louisiana Sports  
15 Writers Association and is a member of the 2023 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction  
16 Class; and

17 WHEREAS, Lyons' interest in writing and reporting surfaced at an early age; while  
18 attending Terrebonne High School, Lyons was a staff member of her school's newspaper *The*

1 *Mirror* and also became the assistant society editor of the city of Houma's newspaper *The*  
2 *Courier*; and

3 WHEREAS, following high school, Lyons attended Loyola University in New  
4 Orleans and staffed the university's newspaper *The Maroon* before graduating in 1987 with  
5 a degree in English; and

6 WHEREAS, she began her professional sports writing career as a sports agate clerk  
7 at *The Times-Picayune* in 1986 and twenty-five years later rose to become the president of  
8 the Louisiana Sports Writers Association (LSWA), only the second woman elected to that  
9 office, with an impressive collection of writing awards; and

10 WHEREAS, climbing a steep hill at a time when women sports journalists were  
11 uncommon in Louisiana, Ms. Lyons became the high school reporter for the  
12 *Times-Picayune's* River Parishes Bureau in 1991, remaining there until the newspaper's  
13 reduction in forces in 2012; and

14 WHEREAS, during her time with the *Times-Picayune*, Lyons was selected twice (in  
15 1992 and 2004) by out-of-state judges as the LSWA Prep Writer of the Year and in 2008,  
16 as recipient of the LSWA's prestigious Mac Russo Award for contributions to the ideals and  
17 progress of the organization; in 2008, she was also honored by the Louisiana High School  
18 Sports Writers Association as its Prep Writer of the Year; and

19 WHEREAS, Lyons served as president of the LSWA from 2012 to 2014, helping to  
20 oversee the opening of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History  
21 Museum in Natchitoches; she also created, launched, and currently maintains the LSWA's  
22 website and Facebook page; and

23 WHEREAS, between 2012 and 2015, Lyons continued to cover sports and other  
24 matters of interest in the River Parishes as a freelance reporter until she became the sports  
25 editor at *L'Observateur* in LaPlace in 2015, winning a Louisiana Press Association writing  
26 award as well as an award for Best Photo; and

27 WHEREAS, after leaving *L'Observateur* in 2017, she continued freelance reporting  
28 for multiple media outlets; and

29 WHEREAS, she is a longstanding member of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame  
30 selection committee and for 25 years served on the Allstate Sugar Bowl Greater New

1 Orleans Sports Hall of Fame selection panel; and

2 WHEREAS, in addition to sports writing, Lyons is an occasional mom blogger and  
3 has authored *Adoption in America: The Diary of a Mom-in-Waiting*, an account of her and  
4 husband Marty Luquet's quest to adopt a baby; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Lyons currently teaches high school journalism, creative writing,  
6 and multimedia at Riverside Academy in Reserve and is the Advisor for the *Rebel Express*  
7 student news website.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
9 does hereby commend Lori Lyons for receiving the 2023 Distinguished Service Award in  
10 Sports Journalism and on being inducted into the 2023 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of  
11 Fame.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
13 Lori Lyons.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Kathy Liberty.

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DIGEST

SR 18 Original

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