

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY SENATORS BERNARD AND BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To commend Bruce Brown 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.

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

WHEREAS, Bruce Brown, an acclaimed south Louisiana writer and editor, has been selected for the 2023 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism from the Louisiana Sports Writers Association and is a member of the 2023 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Brown served on the sports staff of the Lafayette *Daily Advertiser* for 21 years, worked 37 years overall as a part of the editorial staff, served as sports editor for 20 years, and helped guide the *Daily Advertiser* through radical changes in both that newspaper and in the industry; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Brown began his writing career as a part-timer in January of 1975, covering a prep basketball game between Pecan Island and Meaux as his first assignment; and

WHEREAS, Bruce joined the *Daily Advertiser* staff full-time in August of 1975 and one year later he took over as sports editor, serving in that capacity for two decades; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Bruce left the sports editor role to concentrate on writing and covered prep, college, and pro sports as well as military, faith and values, and nonprofit organizations for the *Daily Advertiser*; and

WHEREAS, during his career with the *Daily Advertiser*, the sports department won more than 100 Louisiana Sports Writers Association (LSWA) awards for writing, layout, and photography, numerous Louisiana Press Association honors, and won a coveted national Best of Gannett award in 2005 for its coverage of Lafayette's team in the Little League World Series; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Bruce wrote *Prides of Acadiana*, a book about legendary University of Louisiana in Lafayette (ULL) standouts including Walter Imahara, Ron Guidry, Bo Lamar, Harold Porter, and Chris Cagle; and

WHEREAS, he served two years as LSWA vice president and another two as secretary and has been a member of the Hall of Fame selection committee for two decades; and

WHEREAS, Bruce returned to full-time sports coverage in 2011 before retiring in 2012; and

WHEREAS, in his retirement Bruce has become an award winning radio talk show host, a freelance writer for the ULL *Athletic Network*, for *Quick Slants*, and *Tiger Rag* magazines, the *Crowley Post-Signal* and the *Abbeville Meridional*, and still contributes articles to the *Acadiana Advocate*.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bruce Brown.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE