

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette founded the McNeese Hall of Fame, serving as its
2 chairman until his retirement in 2012, was inducted into the College Sports Information
3 Directors of America Hall of Fame in 2009, the Southland Conference Hall of Honor in
4 2007, and received the Louisiana Sports Writers Association Distinguished Service Award
5 in Sports Journalism in 2002 and the Scoop Hudgins outstanding Sports Information
6 Director award from the All-American Football Foundation in 2008; and

7 WHEREAS, the McNeese Cowboys football field is named in his honor and the
8 Southland Conference recently named its sports media award in his honor and selected him
9 to receive the first such award; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has worked with eight McNeese basketball coaches,
11 including legendary head coach Ralph O. Ward, who is a member of the Louisiana Sports
12 Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame, and the McNeese Hall of Fame and
13 was named Mr. Louisiana Basketball in 1977; and

14 WHEREAS, as sports information director, Mr. Bonnette worked to bring the story
15 of Cowboy athletics to the state, region, and nation, and promoted numerous McNeese
16 players to all-American honors, including Hall of Famer Joe Dumars and more recently,
17 Patrick Richard; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette was part of seven conference championships, helped
19 promote thirty-one first team all-conference selections, nine conference players of the year,
20 six conference coaches of the year, and four all-Americans; and

21 WHEREAS, while at McNeese, Mr. Bonnette did not miss a Cowboy football game,
22 working a national record of five hundred twenty-seven consecutive games and was also a
23 part of six hundred forty-four basketball wins, nine twenty-win seasons, and eight national
24 postseason appearances by the basketball team; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette retired from McNeese State University in 2012 after a
26 distinguished forty-six year career in which he was recognized nationally for his news
27 releases, game programs, and media guides; and

28 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has written a golf column for the *Lake Charles American*
29 *Press* continuously since 1970 and also writes a weekly outdoor column; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette has served as a mentor and role model for many
2 journalists and coaches, and few people in college athletics, either as administrators or as
3 coaches, can match Mr. Bonnette's dedication and commitment to his craft; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette brings a deep sense of pride and honor to his family, the
5 students, faculty and staff, and alumni of McNeese State University, and to all of the friends
6 he has made throughout the course of his highly productive career; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Bonnette represents all that is good about Louisiana and merits a
8 sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for his many outstanding accomplishments
9 as he is once again recognized for his remarkable career at McNeese State University; and

10 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana sincerely
11 wishes to acknowledge Mr. Bonnette for the many contributions he has made to the sports
12 communications field, McNeese State University, and the state of Louisiana.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
14 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Louis Bonnette upon his receipt of the 2013
15 Mr. Louisiana Basketball award from the Louisiana Association of Basketball Coaches, does
16 hereby commend him for a forty-six year career of very distinguished, professional service
17 to McNeese State University, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable
18 accomplishments and manifold contributions to McNeese State University and the state of
19 Louisiana, and does hereby extend to Mr. Bonnette best wishes for continued health and
20 happiness.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
22 to Mr. Louis Bonnette.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Kleckley

HR No. 101

Commends Louis Bonnette, sports information director at McNeese State University, upon receipt of the 2013 Mr. Louisiana Basketball award.