

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Richard "Moon" Ducote upon his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Richard "Moon" Ducote, football legend, upon the occasion of his induction
3 into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame was established in 1958 and was
5 intended, in the words of Otis Harris, sports editor of the *Shreveport Journal*, to be "the
6 Louisiana Hall of Fame – a hall of fame for the state's greatest athletes, men or women,
7 amateur or professional, living or dead"; and

8 WHEREAS, though the Hall of Fame began over fifty years ago, in 2013 the Hall
9 of Fame celebrated the grand opening of its permanent and appropriate home for the
10 recognition of Louisiana's greatest sports heroes at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and
11 Northwest Louisiana History Museum in the National Historic District of Natchitoches; and

12 WHEREAS, among the remarkable class of honorees to be inducted into the
13 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday, June 21, 2014, is legendary football player,
14 coach, and official, Richard "Moon" Ducote; and

15 WHEREAS, Richard "Moon" Ducote, a native of Cottonport, Louisiana, was born
16 August 28, 1897, and attended Auburn University from 1915 through 1917 where he played
17 on the football team as a fullback, halfback, and end, and was twice named to the All-
18 Southern Conference team; and

19 WHEREAS, Ducote was also known for his ability as a kicker, helping to lead his
20 Auburn team to victory by making game-winning field goals of forty-eight and fifty-one
21 yards to beat Georgia and Vanderbilt; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1918, Ducote played for the Great Lakes Cleveland Naval Reserves,
2 a military team composed of former college stars from around the country, and in a game
3 against the University of Pittsburg, coached by legendary Pop Warner, Ducote scored all of
4 the ten points needed to beat Pitt, handing them their only defeat in three seasons; and

5 WHEREAS, a Cleveland sports writer who covered the game stated that Ducote
6 "simply battered the life out of the Pitt defense and . . . must be rated as one of the greatest
7 backs of all time"; and

8 WHEREAS, from legendary player to legendary coach, in 1918, Ducote began his
9 coaching career serving as either an assistant or head coach for a variety of sports, including
10 football, baseball, and basketball, at Louisiana State University, Loyola University of New
11 Orleans, and Spring Hill College; and

12 WHEREAS, from 1929 through 1934, Ducote worked as a football official in the
13 Southern Conference and Southeastern Conference, as a linesman, umpire, and referee; and

14 WHEREAS, at the end of the 1934-1935 season, Ducote was a member of the
15 officiating crew for the 1935 Rose Bowl game on New Years's Day of 1935 which pitted
16 Alabama against Stanford; and

17 WHEREAS, in March of 1935, Loyola University of New Orleans rehired Ducote
18 as a football and basketball coach, and in 1936, Ducote served as Loyola's athletic director,
19 a role he held from August 1936 until his death in 1937; and

20 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana wishes to
21 recognize the legendary Richard "Moon" Ducote for his extraordinary athletic and coaching
22 career and for his well-deserved induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, for he is
23 truly a Louisiana football icon.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
25 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Richard "Moon" Ducote upon the occasion
26 of his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
28 to family of Richard "Moon" Ducote.

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)]

Cox

HR No. 185

Commends Richard "Moon" Ducote, legendary football player and coach, upon the occasion of his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.