

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR JOHNS

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Joseph T. Miller Sr. for his contributions to McNeese State University baseball and softball programs and to Lake Charles area youth baseball.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize, commend, and congratulate Joseph T. Miller Sr. for his unselfish and
3 countless contributions to the McNeese State University baseball and softball
4 programs and Lake Charles area youth baseball.

5 WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller Sr. graduated from Lake Charles High School in 1944,
6 then entered the United States Navy in the V-12 Officer Training program, and, as an officer
7 trainee, attended Mississippi College and Duke University; and

8 WHEREAS, after college, the Lake Charles native returned home and went to work
9 at F. Miller and Sons Construction Company, a multimillion-dollar construction firm,
10 serving as president from 1960 to 2006; and

11 WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller Sr. has also served as president for the State Highway
12 and Heavy Associated General Contractors of America, board member and president of
13 Louisiana Council of Associated General Contractors, and director and president of the Lake
14 Charles Associated General Contractors; and

15 WHEREAS, his service to the Southwest Louisiana community includes serving as
16 director of First National Bank of Lake Charles and as president and member of the board
17 of directors of Lake Charles Memorial Hospital Association, the American Heart
18 Association, United Way of Southwest Louisiana, Campfire USA, and First United

1 Methodist Church of Lake Charles; and

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Miller's activities also include serving as president of the board of
3 directors at the Foreman-Reynaud Community Center, a member of Lake Charles Rotary
4 Club, a volunteer at Abraham's Tent, and a volunteer reader at the Head Start Program at
5 J.D. Clifton Elementary School; and

6 WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards for his community service including
7 the Angel Award for Public Service with area youth by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana
8 and Citizen of the Year awards from the Chamber Southwest Louisiana, Calcasieu Area
9 Council Boy Scouts of America, and South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club; and

10 WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller is well known in Southwest Louisiana for his interest
11 and support of baseball as he coached South Lake Charles Little League Baseball for forty
12 years making several trips to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania,
13 and was vice president of the Little League for thirty-six years; and

14 WHEREAS, over the years, he has been a valued supporter both personally and
15 financially to McNeese State University, where many of his former players have played
16 baseball; and

17 WHEREAS, beginning in 1972, Joseph T. Miller Sr. has served on the McNeese
18 Foundation Board of Directors, receiving their Distinguished Service Award, and he also
19 received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from McNeese, and membership
20 with Beta Gamma Sigma at the MSU College of Business; and

21 WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller Sr.'s generosity to McNeese includes gifts approaching
22 \$1 million, as he and his late wife, Mary Joyce, have established and/or supported numerous
23 endowed scholarships and professorships including the JP Morgan Chase Bank
24 Professorship in Business and Professorship in Business Research, the Franklin L. and Laura
25 Chavanne Miller Professorship in Science, the Calcasieu Parish Medical Society
26 Professorship in Pre-Med Science, the McElveen Insurance Agency Professorship in
27 Business, the Joe Tommy and Mary Joyce Miller Scholarship in Baseball, the Engineering
28 Campaign, as well as gifts to the athletics department and several other university programs;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, he recently made a substantially generous financial donation to both the

