

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY SENATOR BISHOP

A RESOLUTION

To commend Tulane University on retiring No. 18 in all sports in honor of Devon Walker.

WHEREAS, it has been announced by Tulane athletic director Troy Dannen that as of the start of the 2018-19 academic year, No. 18 will be retired from all sports; and

WHEREAS, former Tulane football player Devon Walker, who wore No. 18, suffered a career-ending spinal injury that left him wheelchair-bound in Tulane's game at Tulsa in September of 2012, returned to graduate in 2014 with a degree in cell and molecular biology and is working on a master's degree in neuroscience; and

WHEREAS, Devon Walker has shown incredible courage in the face of unspeakable adversity; and

WHEREAS, Devon Walker, after playing high school ball for Destrehan, walked-on at Tulane in 2009 and became a four-year letterman, making 58 tackles in 32 games while starting three times and earning a scholarship along the way; and

WHEREAS, he started the first two games in 2012 at strong safety before getting hurt in a collision with teammate Julian Warmesley on the last play of the first half at Tulsa and after being taken from the field in an ambulance, he had a three-hour surgery at an Oklahoma hospital and was in hospitals for months as he recovered; and

WHEREAS, following his injury, Walker received the Disney Spirit Award, an honor given annually by Disney Sports to college football's most inspirational figures; and

WHEREAS, no Tulane football player has worn No. 18 since Walker; and

WHEREAS, Tulane University will hold a retirement ceremony at one of its home football games next fall, with the date to be selected before the season.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Tulane University on retiring No. 18 in all sports in honor of Devon Walker.

**SR NO. 111**

**ENROLLED**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Tulane athletic director Troy Dannen and Devon Walker.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE