

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Joe Cormier III upon his 2019 induction into the International Babe Ruth Hall of Fame and for his many achievements in youth baseball.

WHEREAS, a love of sports led seven-year-old Joe Cormier to minor league baseball, where he played two years; in 1960, Joe moved up to little league baseball, which served as a springboard to Babe Ruth baseball; in three years, from 1963 to 1965, Joe played on two Babe Ruth league championship winning teams and tied for the championship in his final season of play; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Joe served on the stadium committee for the Babe Ruth World Series, the first world series hosted in Louisiana; played in Abbeville, the series broke attendance records and was the first one to make a profit for the Babe Ruth league; and

WHEREAS, in the twenty years from 1975 to 1995, Joe Cormier coached 15-year-olds in Abbeville, was named assistant coach for the first Louisiana Babe Ruth 13-year-olds state tournament, served as president for the A. A. Comeaux Babe Ruth League in Abbeville for five years and was inducted into the A. A. Comeaux Vermilion Youth Hall of Fame for Babe Ruth Baseball; he was also Louisiana Assistant District 3 commissioner, coached 10-year-olds in the Abbeville Bambino League, was manager of the 10-year-old Louisiana Bambino and the Southwest Regional runner-up teams, served as assistant director for the 15-year-olds state tournament, and was named financial director for the Cal Ripken World Series in Abbeville after he raised \$100,000 in three years for the renovation of Ralph Sellers Field; and

WHEREAS, Joe is a member of the national Babe Ruth World Series task force and the Babe Ruth Golden Alumni Club, chairman of the Babe Ruth Southwest Region Hall of Fame committee, commissioner of the 13-to-15-year-olds division of the Southwest Region,

and a member of the national Babe Ruth Alumni Association, from which he received the Golden Bat Award as the top fundraiser in the Southwest Region; he is a member of the Capital Building Committee; in 2013, Joe established the Louisiana Babe Ruth Hall of Fame, and since 2014, Chevron Corporation has donated \$1,000 annually to Babe Ruth, Incorporated, in the name of Joe Cormier in recognition of his many years of volunteerism to the organization; and

WHEREAS, in January 2015, Joe Cormier was inducted into the Louisiana Babe Ruth Hall of Fame; in April 2015, he was inducted into the Babe Ruth Southwest Region Hall of Fame and was appointed national vice chairman of the Babe Ruth League Alumni Association, national chairman of its fundraising development committee, and is a member of its steering committee with responsibilities for the management and monitoring of long-term plans and investment projects for the association; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of forty-one years of exemplary service to Babe Ruth, Incorporated, Joe Cormier III was inducted in February 2019 into the International Babe Ruth Hall of Fame; he has been named director of the 14-year-olds Southwest Regional Tournament in Eagle Pass, Texas, which will be played in July 2019, and has been appointed director of the 2nd Annual Cal Ripken Invitational Tournament in Jansen Beach, Florida, in August 2019; Joe has ushered more than three thousand children into the world of baseball and softball in Houma, more than three hundred fifty in St. Francisville, and more than four hundred in Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS, Joe Cormier III has dedicated much of his life to introducing and fostering young athletes in the American favorite pastime of baseball; he believes the heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but in the depth of his commitment to making a difference in the lives of others; it is fitting to recognize his volunteer heart and to herald his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Louisiana and to the Southwest Region of Babe Ruth League, Incorporated.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Joe Cormier III for his outstanding work in youth sports and his unwavering dedication to Babe Ruth baseball and does hereby express enduring pride at his induction into the International Babe Ruth Hall of Fame.

SR NO. 54

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
Joe Cormier III.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE