

2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR LONG

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Les Miles upon being inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To commend Les Miles on being named as a 2019 inductee into the Louisiana Sports Hall
3 of Fame.

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana, each year
5 collaborates with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association in selecting a limited number of
6 sports figures who embody the character, skill, and talents worthy of being enshrined into
7 the hall of fame; and

8 WHEREAS, the 2019 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class includes Les
9 Miles; and

10 WHEREAS, after completing a stellar high school career at Elyria High School in
11 Elyria, Ohio, where he twice earned all-state honors for football, in addition to earning
12 varsity letters in baseball and wrestling, Les chose to attend the University of Michigan and
13 play for the Wolverines' legendary coach, Bo Schembechler; and

14 WHEREAS, during his playing days with the Wolverines, Les played on three teams
15 that shared the Big Ten title, participated in epic games during the "Ten Year War" with
16 Ohio State, lettered twice, played in the Orange Bowl, and earned a degree in economics;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, after a few years in business, Les returned to his beloved alma mater

1 as a graduate assistant (1980-81), coached the offensive line for the Colorado Buffaloes
2 under legendary coach Bill McCartney (1982-86), returned to Michigan as the offensive line
3 coach (1987-94), served as offensive coordinator for the Oklahoma State Cowboys (1995-
4 97), and coached tight ends for the Dallas Cowboys (1998-2000) before being named head
5 coach at Oklahoma State prior to the 2001 season; and

6 WHEREAS, while serving as the head coach in Stillwater, Coach Miles developed
7 a reputation as a master motivator and winner, with the Cowboys posting winning records
8 in his last three seasons, earning three bowl bids, beating their hated instate rival, Oklahoma
9 twice, and winning the Associated Press Big XII coach of the year award for the 2002
10 season; and

11 WHEREAS, on January 2, 2005, Les was named as the thirty-second head coach
12 of the Louisiana State University Fighting Tigers; and

13 WHEREAS, in August 2005, days before Coach Miles was scheduled to make his
14 debut as the coach of LSU, Hurricane Katrina struck southern Louisiana, causing LSU's first
15 game to be postponed, while the Tigers' second game against Arizona State was forced to
16 move from Baton Rouge to Tempe's on five-day notice, as the LSU campus was still serving
17 as an emergency center for Hurricane Katrina relief; and

18 WHEREAS, during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Les encouraged his players
19 to assist with the care of evacuees on the LSU campus, earning great respect from
20 Louisianans for putting the needs of its citizens above what may have been best for the team;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, with a dramatic last minute win in Tempe against the No. 15 Sun
23 Devils, featuring two blocked kicks for touchdowns and a fourth down touchdown pass to
24 win the game, the legend of the "Mad Hatter" was born; and

25 WHEREAS, after a loss to Tennessee, the 2005 Tigers were on a mission to lift up
26 a state ravaged by hurricanes, and rattled off nine straight wins without an open date on their
27 way to winning the Western Division of the SEC and a berth in the championship game; and

28 WHEREAS, the 2005 season and the beginning of the Les Miles era at LSU was
29 capped off by a lopsided win over the highly ranked Miami Hurricanes and a top ten finish;
30 and

1 WHEREAS, the 2006 Tigers capped the 2006 season with a Sugar Bowl triumph
2 over Notre Dame and a top five finish; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2007, universally viewed as the most exciting season in the history
4 of college football, with LSU having suffered two triple-overtime losses but still winning
5 the SEC championship, and through a series of upsets on the last day of the season, LSU
6 found itself in the BCS National Championship Game to be played in the Louisiana
7 Superdome against the No. 1 Ohio State Buckeyes; and

8 WHEREAS, as Les had never defeated the Buckeyes as a player at Michigan, he
9 relished the chance to play Ohio State on college football's greatest stage; and

10 WHEREAS, the Tigers dominated the Buckeyes 35-24 to capture its second national
11 championship of the decade and third in school history; and

12 WHEREAS, the 2011 SEC Champion Tigers experienced perhaps the greatest
13 regular season in college football history, with victories over No. 3 Oregon (Pac-12 and Rose
14 Bowl Champion) and No. 16 West Virginia (Big East and Orange Bowl Champion), in
15 addition to the gauntlet of SEC foes, including No. 25 Mississippi State, No. 19 Auburn, No.
16 17 Florida, No. 3 Arkansas, the epic "Game of the Century" 9-6 overtime victory over No.
17 2 Alabama (BCS National Champion) in Tuscaloosa, and No. 12 Georgia (Sugar Bowl
18 Champion) in the SEC Championship Game; and

19 WHEREAS, in eleven-plus seasons with the Tigers, Coach Miles averaged over ten
20 wins per season, guided the Tigers to eleven bowl games, seven bowl victories, three SEC
21 championship game appearances, two SEC championships, two BCS National
22 championship game appearances, one BSC National Championship, five Top 10 rankings,
23 and three Top 5 finishes; and

24 WHEREAS, Les compiled the second most wins and the highest winning percentage
25 in program history, while producing an SEC-leading sixty-nine NFL drafts picks, thirteen
26 first rounders, and twenty-two first team All Americans; and

27 WHEREAS, under Coach Miles' leadership, LSU players excelled in the classroom,
28 achieving a graduation rate as high as second in the SEC on multiple occasions, two hundred
29 forty graduates, and nearly one hundred ninety SEC Academic Honor Roll members; and

30 WHEREAS, whether it was the trick plays, quirky press conferences, the way he

1 wore his white hat, or eating grass on the sidelines, Coach Miles captured the imagination
2 of football fans all over Louisiana and the country; and

3 WHEREAS, LSU Tiger fans and the state of Louisiana will be forever grateful to
4 Coach Miles for his accomplishments on and off the field.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6 commend Les Miles on being named as a 2019 inductee into the Louisiana Sports Hall of
7 Fame.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Les
9 Miles.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

	DIGEST	
SCR 109 Original	2019 Regular Session	Long
Commends Les Miles on being named as a 2019 inductee into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.		