

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY SENATOR BERNARD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Eddie Flynn on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana, each year collaborates with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association in selecting a limited number of sports figures who embody the character, skill, and talent worthy of being named to the Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class includes Dr. Eddie Flynn; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Flynn, a 1936 Loyola University School of Dentistry graduate, won an Olympic boxing gold medal in the welterweight (one hundred forty-seven pounds) division at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games; and

WHEREAS, the boxing match was over in nine minutes, after three furious rounds resulted in a sixty-to-fifty-nine decision in favor of Flynn; and

WHEREAS, Flynn joined the Loyola University boxing team under legendary coach Tad Gormly and was the National Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Champion in 1931 and 1932 and had a record of one hundred forty-four wins and zero losses; and

WHEREAS, according to the Loyola Wolf Yearbook, "(Flynn) swept all opposition aside and was chosen to represent the United States in the welterweight division in a series of boxing matches in New York with the European champions from Italy"; and

WHEREAS, in one of the biggest bouts of his career, Flynn defeated the Italian champion who held the "crown of the foreign countries"; and

WHEREAS, after the Olympics, Flynn fought professionally and compiled a twenty-three win, seven loss, one draw record until he entered military service and served through World War II; and

WHEREAS, after World War II, Flynn relocated to Tampa where he used money he had won as a boxer to establish his dental practice; and

WHEREAS, Flynn was elected to the inaugural Loyola University Athletics Hall of Fame in 1964, the Florida Sports Hall of Fame in 1974, the Greater New Orleans Sports Hall of Fame in 1981, and the Florida Boxing Hall of Fame in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Flynn passed away in Tampa, Florida, at the age of sixty-six.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Eddie Flynn on being inducted into the 2022 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his grandson, Doug Beldon.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE