

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

BY SENATOR BERNARD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Garland Forman Jr. upon receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and 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 Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious honor offered to sports media in the state and recipients are carefully chosen after an extensive deliberation by a forty-member expert panel based on their professional accomplishments in local, state, regional, and national arenas; and

WHEREAS, Garland Forman Jr., an influential central Louisiana reporter, editor, and publisher, has been selected for the 2022 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism from the Louisiana Sports Writers Association and a member of the 2022 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction class; and

WHEREAS, for more than four decades, Forman has developed a reputation for being one of the most honored, well-respected sports journalists in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, a native of Pineville, Louisiana, Forman attended Louisiana College in the late 1970s and started reporting while he was a student; and

WHEREAS, following college, Forman started doing freelance work for both the *Eunice News* and the *Ville Platte Gazette*; and

WHEREAS, Forman was named the managing editor of the *Bunkie Record* in 1987 and remained there until the fall of 2018 when he was named the publisher of the *Ville Platte Gazette* and six other papers; and

WHEREAS, during the thirty-one years Forman was at the *Bunkie Record*, he served as the primary reporter for high school athletics and outdoors; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his responsibilities as the managing editor, high school beat reporter, outdoors writer, and photographer, Forman covered the Louisiana State University (LSU) Tigers and other college programs throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at the *Bunkie Record*, he received over four hundred Louisiana Press Association (LPA) awards for his writing including over an estimated one hundred fifty awards in sports writing, sports photography, and layout; and

WHEREAS, Forman is called a "country journalist" by many; he is known for his tireless work with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association (LSWA) and the Louisiana Press Association (LPA); and he is the only person to serve as president of both organizations; and

WHEREAS, Forman has served on numerous LSWA All-State meeting boards and he was awarded the 2005 LSWA Mac Russo Award for his contributions to the progress and ideals of the LSWA; and

WHEREAS, Forman has served, and continues to serve, on the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame selection committee; and

WHEREAS, Garland Forman Jr., currently oversees thirteen weekly newspapers for Louisiana State Newspapers group across north and central Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Garland Forman Jr., upon receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism and 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 Garland Forman Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE