

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 79

BY SENATOR BERNARD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Jay Cicero upon receiving the 2022 Dave Dixon Louisiana Sports Leadership Award 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 Dave Dixon Louisiana Sports Leadership Award is a prestigious honor presented annually by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association to an individual who has played a decisive role as a sports leader or administrator benefitting Louisiana and/or bringing credit to Louisiana on the national and international level; and

WHEREAS, Jay Cicero, a native of Shreveport, Louisiana, has been selected for the 2022 Dave Dixon Louisiana Sports Leadership Award from the Louisiana Sports Writers Association and the 2022 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class; and

WHEREAS, Cicero has more than thirty-five years of sports management experience in Louisiana which includes twenty-four years as the president and chief executive officer of the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Cicero has led efforts in the Crescent City to bring dozens of major sporting events to New Orleans and he has served as the head of the local organizing efforts for those events; and

WHEREAS, Cicero started his career in 1986 in his hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana, in group sales and marketing for the Class AA Shreveport Captains, a professional minor-league baseball team; and

WHEREAS, Cicero joined the Sports Foundation in 1990 as the Director of Special Projects and the Director of Sales for the 1992 United States Olympic Track and Field Trials; and

WHEREAS, Cicero was named the first general manager of a professional minor-league baseball team, the Class AAA New Orleans Zephyrs, in 1993; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, he returned to the Sports Foundation as the Vice President of Operations and was named the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in 1997; and

WHEREAS, as the President and CEO of the Sports Foundation, Jay Cicero has served in numerous senior leadership roles, including the role of Executive Director of the 2002, 2013, and 2014 New Orleans Super Bowl Host Committees, and the 2008, 2014, and 2017 National Basketball Association (NBA) All-Star Game Host Committees; and

WHEREAS, Cicero has served on the Executive Committees for Super Bowls, both Men's and Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Final Fours, the annual New Orleans Bowl, two World Wrestling Entertainment, Incorporated (WWE) WrestleMania events, and the NCAA College Football Playoff championship game in 2020.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jay Cicero upon receiving the 2022 Dave Dixon Louisiana Sports Leadership Award 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 Jay Cicero.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE