

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 195

BY SENATORS STINE AND ABRAHAM

A RESOLUTION

To commend Justin Hill on becoming the winningest coach in McNeese baseball history.

WHEREAS, Justin Hill is a native of West Monroe, Louisiana, and this year became the winningest coach in McNeese baseball history; and

WHEREAS, the McNeese Cowboys have won thirty or more games in six of Hill's eight years as head coach of the McNeese baseball team, even with the 2020 season cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, McNeese's thirty-win season in 2014 was the program's first in nearly five years and the Cowboys compiled seventeen conference victories, its best since 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Cowboys picked up two wins in the 2014 Southland Conference Tournament, which was a team best since picking up two such victories in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Justin Hill became the first head coach since 1998 to win thirty or more games in his first season as the head coach and the first coach since Todd Butler (2000-2003) to win in his debut game when the team picked up a victory over Chicago State; and

WHEREAS, during the 2014 season, five school records, six National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) records, and one Southland Conference record was either tied or broken by the McNeese baseball team; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, with a record of thirty-two wins and twenty-five losses, the Cowboys recorded another thirty or more winning season for the seventeenth time in the program's history and the team recorded back-to-back thirty-win seasons for the first time since the 2002 and 2003 seasons; and

WHEREAS, with the 2015 season, Hill became only the third McNeese head coach to guide the team to back-to-back thirty-win seasons in his first two seasons and he became the second fastest coach in program history to score sixty or more wins; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Hill led the Cowboys to the 2017 Southland Conference regular season title with twenty-two conference wins and eight losses, a school record for conference victories, and a final season record of thirty-seven wins and twenty losses; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the season, Justin Hill was named the 2017 Southland Conference Coach of the Year, the first in his career; and

WHEREAS, in the 2019 season, the Cowboys posted a record of thirty-five wins and twenty-six losses and the season included a shutout win over then nationally ranked Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, McNeese entered the 2019 Southland Conference Tournament as the fifth seed and swept through the slate with an unblemished four and zero-record to capture the team's first NCAA tournament appearance since the 2003 season; and

WHEREAS, the Cowboys' baseball team again won the 2021 Southland Conference Tournament with a perfect four and zero record, extending Hill's post-season conference tournament winning streak to eight games, and the team made a second consecutive NCAA tournament appearance; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the McNeese Cowboys won the Southland Conference regular season championship; they finished the season with a record of thirty-four wins and twenty-two losses; and the team played in the very first Southland Conference Baseball Championship Series; and

WHEREAS, for the second time in his career history, Justin Hill was named the 2022 Clay Gould Southland Conference Coach of the Year and became the winningest coach in the history of the McNeese baseball program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend McNeese University baseball coach Justin Hill on becoming the winningest coach in McNeese baseball history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Coach Justin Hill.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE