

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 199

BY SENATORS CONNICK, HENRY AND TALBOT

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Leslie "Les" Bonano and to recognize his outstanding accomplishments.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana learned of the death of Leslie "Les" Bonano, Louisiana's legendary boxing promoter, manager, and trainer, on May 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Leslie, the son of Leslie Sr. and Rosalie Bonano, and his siblings Mikel, Ronnie, and Susan Rudd were raised in Hollygrove; and

WHEREAS, after completing his studies at Fortier High School, St. Mary's Dominican College, and Loyola University, Les found his vocation in solving high profile criminal cases as an investigator for the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Department; and

WHEREAS, as the chief deputy, Les created a boxing program for inmates to help them achieve better futures upon reentry into society; and

WHEREAS, an undefeated champion himself boasting seventy-nine wins, several of which resulted in knockouts, Les had a reputation for being fearless, hard-hitting, and no-nonsense. His career in law enforcement culminated as chief deputy of the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office, and he would later be known to family and friends as "Chief"; and

WHEREAS, Les was recognized on a much bigger stage when his trained boxers became contenders in title bouts; and

WHEREAS, to honor his contribution to the sport of boxing, Les was selected for induction into the Allstate Sugar Bowl's Greater New Orleans Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2021; and

WHEREAS, Les' talents took him to Hollywood and earned him a small speaking role in the Charles Bronson film, "Hard Times"; and

WHEREAS, for his wife of sixty years, Mary, and his four children, Darla McGovern (Dennis "Jay"), Deslie Bonano-Broussard (Troy), Derrick (Lisa), and Deano (Jaquie), Les was a strong provider, protector, and teacher; and

WHEREAS, for his grandchildren, Devin, Dylan, Dominick, Joseph, Kaitlyn, Madelyn, Mason, Evan, and Aiden, Les was an example of strength and determination; and

WHEREAS, despite his many successes in the sports world, nowhere did Les' ranking figure more prominently than in the daily lives of his family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Leslie "Les" Bonano will be remembered for his deep love of God, family, and community, and for the many contributions of his time, talents, and treasures to efforts that uplifted and improved the lives of others.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of Leslie "Les" Bonano.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to his wife, Mrs. Mary Bonano.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE