

1 WHEREAS, the man nicknamed "Mad Dog" has won more than one hundred and
2 ninety state, regional, and national writing awards including more than eighty-five first
3 places while working for the *Shreveport Times*, *Shreveport Journal*, *Baton Rouge Advocate*,
4 *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, *Mobile Press-Register*,
5 *Jackson Clarion-Ledger*, *TigerDetails.com*, and *Tiger Rag Magazine/TigerRag.com*; and

6 WHEREAS, Higgins was honored by the National Sports Media Association in 2001
7 as Writer of the Year in Tennessee and Writer of the Year in Louisiana in 2015; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2008, while working for the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*, he served
9 as president of the Football Writers Association of America, and he remains the only
10 Louisiana native to hold that office; and

11 WHEREAS, Higgins co-founded the Tennessee Sports Writers Association in the
12 late 1980s and, on ten separate occasions, he was the Tennessee Sportswriter of the Year;
13 in 2011, he was inducted into the Tennessee Sportswriters Hall of Fame; and

14 WHEREAS, Higgins has covered three National Football League (NFL) Super
15 Bowls, eighteen men's National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Final Fours, three
16 women's NCAA Final Fours, three Summer Olympics, seventy NCAA football bowl games
17 including seven national championships, one National Basketball Association (NBA) Finals,
18 twelve NBA playoff series, three NBA All-Star games, twenty Professional Golf Association
19 (PGA) tour events, a world heavyweight boxing championship fight (Tyson versus Lewis),
20 as well as several seasons of Class AA Minor League Baseball, the Arena Football League,
21 and four minor league pro basketball franchises; and

22 WHEREAS, Ron Higgins is a longtime Heisman Trophy voter; a frequent guest on
23 sports radio talk shows and occasional television shows from Hawaii to New York; and he
24 has authored six books.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
26 commend and congratulate Ron Higgins upon receiving the 2024 Distinguished Service
27 Award in Sports Journalism and on being named to the 2024 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ron
29 Higgins.

