

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY SENATOR SEABAUGH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Pat Williams on being inducted into the 2026 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, each year the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana collaborates with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association in selecting a limited number of sports figures who embody the character, skill, talent, and accomplishment worthy of being named to the Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class includes Pat Williams; and

WHEREAS, Pat Williams, a native of Monroe, rose from humble beginnings to become one of the premier run-stopping defensive linemen in the National Football League, earning widespread respect for his strength, durability, and consistent excellence on the field; and

WHEREAS, Williams first distinguished himself as a standout athlete at Wossman High School before continuing his football career at Navarro College, where he earned two All-American honors and established himself as one of the nation's top junior college defensive linemen; and

WHEREAS, he transferred to Texas A&M University, where he continued to develop his skills and earned second-team All-Southwest Conference honors while competing for the Texas A&M Aggies football program; and

WHEREAS, despite going undrafted, Williams demonstrated perseverance and determination by earning a place in the NFL, beginning a remarkable fourteen-year professional career that included 200 games played with 157 starts for the Buffalo Bills and the Minnesota Vikings; and

WHEREAS, Williams became widely recognized as one of the league's most effective run defenders and earned selections to the Pro Bowl in 2006, 2007, and 2008 during his tenure with the Minnesota Vikings; and

WHEREAS, anchoring the defensive line at nose tackle, Williams played a key role in the Vikings' dominance against the run, helping the team lead the NFL in rushing defense for three consecutive seasons from 2006 through 2008 and ranking among the league's top units for several additional seasons; and

WHEREAS, during his distinguished career, Williams recorded 466 tackles, 20.5 sacks, nine fumble recoveries, eight forced fumbles, and one interception, demonstrating his versatility and impact on the defensive side of the ball; and

WHEREAS, his performance and leadership earned him numerous accolades, including recognition as a second-team member of the 2000s All-Decade Team by Pro Football Reference and the Ed Block Courage Award from the Buffalo Bills in 2003, an honor bestowed by teammates to recognize courage and sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Williams was celebrated for his durability and dedication, collecting an extraordinary thirty-seven game balls awarded by coaches and finishing his final NFL season in 2010 by playing all sixteen games at age thirty-eight, making him the oldest defensive player in the league at that time; and

WHEREAS, through hard work, perseverance, and exceptional performance, Pat Williams brought pride to the citizens of Monroe and the entire state of Louisiana while establishing a legacy as one of the most respected defensive linemen of his era.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Pat Williams on being inducted into the 2026 class of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Pat Williams.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES