

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 138

BY SENATOR LONG

A RESOLUTION

To commend Ervin Johnson for being named to the 2013 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana, was accepted in the state museum system in the 2003 Regular Legislative Session, setting the stage for Louisiana and the city of Natchitoches to collaborate with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association; and

WHEREAS, born in New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. Johnson attended high school in Jonesville, Louisiana, and worked in a Baton Rouge, Louisiana, supermarket for two years, before going on to play college basketball at the University of New Orleans (UNO) under coach Tim Floyd; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson played as a six foot-four, two hundred and forty-five pound center from the UNO, and was selected twenty-third overall by the Seattle SuperSonics in the 1993 National Basketball Association (NBA) draft, and played for the Sonics, Denver Nuggets, Minnesota Timberwolves, and Bucks in two separate stints; and

WHEREAS, UNO recorded eighty-seven victories during Ervin Johnson's time with the program, and earned two National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament bids and one National Invitation Tournament appearance; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was the second all-time leading scorer in UNO history with 1,608 points, first all-time field goal percentage with 59 percent, first all-time in double-doubles with 55, first all-time rebounds with 1,287 or 10.5 per game, third all-time in double-figure scoring games with 81, eighth all-time in steals with 109, second all-time in games played with 123, and first all-time in blocks with 294; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was named All-American South Conference for the 1990-1991 season, All-Sun Belt Conference for the 1991-1992 season, and was the 1992-1993 Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson was named Basketball Times Second Team All-American for the 1992-1993 season, and Third Team All-American by Basketball Weekly and United Press International, and Honorable Mention All-American for the same season by the Associated Press; and

WHEREAS, in 1993 he was named the MVP of the National Association of Basketball Coaches, and his number forty, Privateer jersey was retired December 29, 1997, at the Lakefront Arena; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson played professionally for thirteen seasons, also spending time in Denver, Milwaukee, and Minnesota where he averaged 4.1 points, 6.1 rebounds and 1.3 blocks for his 845-game career; and

WHEREAS, his best seasons came in 1996-1997 with Denver when he averaged 7.1 points and 11.1 rebounds, and in 1997-1998 with Milwaukee when he averaged 8.0 points per game and 8.5 rebounds per game in starting 163 of a possible 164 games.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Ervin Johnson for being named to the 2013 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame Induction Class.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ervin Johnson and the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE