

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

A RESOLUTION

To commend Oscar Lofton of Hammond for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to his community, state, and nation.

WHEREAS, over the years, Louisiana has produced many great athletes who have made a significant impact on the world of sports, and Oscar Lofton is one of these extraordinary sports legends; and

WHEREAS, as a student at Southeastern Louisiana University, Oscar Lofton was a star athlete who lettered in three sports, football, basketball, and track and field; and

WHEREAS, immediately following college, Mr. Lofton signed with the Boston Patriots in the brand new American Football League, and he made his mark on history on July 30, 1960, by scoring a touchdown on a sixty-yard catch-and-run in the league's first-ever game; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, Mr. Lofton was drafted into the United States Army, and when he rejoined his team in 1963, he was injured at training camp and made the transition into playing semiprofessional football and coaching, beginning at Holy Cross College; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lofton's long and highly productive coaching career in Louisiana included leading Hammond High School to a state championship, coaching at Tulane University, and serving with great distinction as head coach of the Lions of Southeastern Louisiana University from 1980 until 1985; he also served as athletic director at SLU from 1979 until 1980; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lofton ultimately coached for a total of twenty-eight years at the high school, college, military, and semiprofessional levels, inspiring countless young people to be the best that they could be, and he spent another twenty-one years as a scout, six years for National Football Scouting and fifteen years for the San Francisco 49ers before his retirement in 2007; and

WHEREAS, for his many achievements at SLU and his manifold contributions to his alma mater, Mr. Lofton was inducted into the Southeastern Athletics Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many achievements in athletics, Mr. Lofton is a deeply beloved member of the Hammond community who has earned the respect and admiration of the countless citizens whose lives he has touched; and

WHEREAS, Oscar Lofton, one of Louisiana's finest sons, merits a special measure of commendation for his singular achievements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana House of Representatives does hereby commend Oscar Lofton for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions; does hereby recognize and record for posterity his exceptional achievements as an athlete, coach, scout, and citizen; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that he brings to his family and friends, to the Hammond community, to Southeastern Louisiana University, to the state of Louisiana, and to the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Oscar Lofton.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES