

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 74

BY SENATOR BERNARD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Ro Brown upon receiving the 2021 Louisiana Sports Writers Association's Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism.

WHEREAS, in 1958, the Louisiana Sports Writers Association was created and became the parent organization of the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, each year in collaboration with the Louisiana Sports Writers Association, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame selects a limited number of sports figures and sports media professionals who embody the character, skill, and talents worthy of being named to the hall of fame; and

WHEREAS, Ro Brown was named a recipient of the 2021 Louisiana Sports Writers Association's Distinguished Service Award in Sports Journalism for his trailblazing work in television sports; and

WHEREAS, Ro Brown is a pioneering broadcasting presence who became a sports media staple in his native New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Mr. Brown went to work for WDSU-TV in New Orleans and became the first on-air African-American sports anchor-reporter in the Crescent City; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Mr. Brown worked for one year at KPLC-TV in Lake Charles and then returned to WDSU-TV where he worked for the next twenty-one years, becoming a predominant media figure in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, his 1983 five-part series on the black student-athletes won a Louisiana Associated Press Award for best sports series; and

WHEREAS, Ro Brown also received a New Orleans Press Club award for his highlights of the Liberty Track and Field Meet; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Sports Task Force of the National Association of Black Journalists presented Ro Brown with the Sam Lacy Pioneer Award; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, he was awarded the prestigious Mac Russo Award by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association; and

WHEREAS, while continuing to cover sports in and around New Orleans, he has worked for the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation as Director of Community Relations and has also worked at Event Producers where he produced and hosted television shows for the Sun Belt Conference and the Louisiana High School Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brown served as assistant director of communications at the University of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, before his award-winning media career began, Ro Brown attended George Washington Carver High School in New Orleans and graduated from John F. Kennedy High and Loyola University in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, he served four years in the United States Navy and is a member of selection committees for the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, the Allstate Sugar Bowl Greater New Orleans Sports Writers Association, and the New Orleans Saints Hall of Fame.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Ro Brown upon receiving the 2021 Louisiana Sports Writers Association's Distinguished Service Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ro Brown.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE