

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Beryl Shipley posthumously upon his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Beryl Shipley, legendary basketball coach, posthumously upon the occasion  
3 of his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

4 WHEREAS, it was in 1957 when Beryl Shipley arrived as head basketball coach at  
5 what was then Southwestern Louisiana Institute (SLI), later known as the University of  
6 Southwestern Louisiana, and now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette; and

7 WHEREAS, Coach Shipley bravely broke racial barriers and made history by  
8 recruiting African American players to play basketball at SLI at a time when no African  
9 American athletes were participating in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)  
10 sports in any Deep South states; and

11 WHEREAS, from 1957 until 1973, Coach Shipley compiled a very impressive record  
12 of two hundred ninety-six wins and one hundred twenty-nine losses, and he remains the  
13 winningest coach in school history; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Shipley had fifteen winning seasons in his sixteen-year tenure,  
15 and he coached three All-Americans; he also served with distinction as athletic director from  
16 1958 until 1960; and

17 WHEREAS, one of Coach Shipley's teams reached the final four in the NCAA  
18 College Division National Tournament in Evansville, Indiana; in their first two years in the  
19 NCAA Division I, his teams were nationally ranked in the top ten and reached the second  
20 round of postseason tournament play; and in two years in the Southland Conference, the  
21 team never lost a game; and

1           WHEREAS, Coach Shipley has received numerous honors and awards for his  
2 exemplary achievements in coaching, including being named Gulf States Conference Coach  
3 of the Year four times and Southland Conference Coach of the Year twice, and he was most  
4 deservingly inducted into the Louisiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1986; and

5           WHEREAS, during his tenure as head coach Shipley demonstrated the rigorous  
6 leadership and encouragement essential for the production of winners and team players both  
7 on and off the court, motivating his athletes toward success with the unique relationship he  
8 had with each player, his seemingly endless faith in their abilities, and his inspiring passion  
9 for the game they all loved; and

10          WHEREAS, Beryl Shipley will forever be remembered for the tremendous pride,  
11 honor, and joy he has brought to his fellow Ragin' Cajuns and to the state of Louisiana.

12          THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
13 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby record and recognize the outstanding accomplishments  
14 of Beryl Shipley, legendary basketball coach, and hereby commends Coach Shipley  
15 posthumously upon the occasion of his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

16          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
17 to the family of Beryl Shipley.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Cox

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