

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 202

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Ervin Johnson upon his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Ervin Johnson, legendary basketball player, upon the occasion of his induction  
3 into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame was established in 1958 and was  
5 intended, in the words of Otis Harris, sports editor of the *Shreveport Journal*, to be "the  
6 Louisiana Hall of Fame – a hall of fame for the state's greatest athletes, men or women,  
7 amateur or professional, living or dead"; and

8 WHEREAS, though the Hall of Fame was begun over fifty years ago, it is only this  
9 year that it has a permanent and appropriate home to recognize Louisiana's greatest sports  
10 heroes, for on Friday, June 28, 2013, the grand opening will be held for the stunning twenty-  
11 three million dollar Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History  
12 Museum in the National Historic District of Natchitoches; and

13 WHEREAS, among the remarkable class of honorees to be inducted into the  
14 Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday, June 29, 2013, is one of the greatest basketball  
15 players the state of Louisiana has ever produced, a man who truly meets the standard for the  
16 Hall of Fame advanced in 1950 that still abides today, for Ervin Johnson is surely one of the  
17 state's greatest athletes; and

18 WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson, a Jonesville native, thrilled all of Louisiana with his  
19 impressive basketball prowess, first at the collegiate level and later as a member of the  
20 National Basketball Association (NBA); and

1           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson never played high school basketball and was bagging  
2 groceries in Baton Rouge when he was brought to the attention of then University of New  
3 Orleans (UNO) coach Tim Floyd, at which point he quickly established himself as a team  
4 leader; and

5           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson played from 1990 to 1993 at UNO, and was the Sun Belt  
6 Conference Player of the Year in 1993 when *Basketball Times* made him a second-team All-  
7 American; and

8           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson helped lead UNO to two National Collegiate Athletic  
9 Association (NCAA) Tournaments and one National Invitation Tournament (NIT) during  
10 his time there, and he finished as the second-leading scorer in UNO history with 1,608 points  
11 scored, and was UNO's all-time leader in rebounds (1,287), blocked shots (294), field goal  
12 percentage (.590), and double-doubles (55); and

13           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson averaged 13.1 points and 10.5 rebounds for his college  
14 career, and was the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the National Association of Basketball  
15 Coaches (NABC) All-Star game in 1993; and

16           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson's jersey was retired in 1997 and in 2005 he was named  
17 to the Sun Belt Conference All-Time team; and

18           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson then moved on to the NBA, where he was a first-round  
19 draft pick by Seattle in 1993, and later spent time with Denver, Milwaukee, and Minnesota;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson played thirteen seasons in the NBA, where he averaged  
22 4.1 points, 6.1 rebounds, and 1.3 blocks per game over his 845-game career; and

23           WHEREAS, Ervin Johnson's best seasons came in 1996-97 with Denver when he  
24 averaged 7.1 points and 11.1 rebounds, and 1997-98 with Milwaukee when he averaged 8.0  
25 points and 8.5 rebounds in starting 163 of a possible 164 games those two years; and

26           WHEREAS, the House of Representatives wishes to recognize Ervin Johnson for his  
27 peerless athletic career and for his well-deserved induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall  
28 of Fame, for he is truly one of Louisiana's greatest athletes.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
2   Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Ervin Johnson, legendary basketball player,  
3   upon the occasion of his induction into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

4           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
5   to Ervin Johnson.

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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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