

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEOPOLD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Coach Robert "Bob" Becnel for his contribution to Louisiana athletics upon his retirement as head football coach at Belle Chasse High School.

WHEREAS, upon the occasion of his retirement, it is appropriate that heartfelt commendations be extended to Bob Becnel for his remarkable achievements and service to Louisiana athletics; and

WHEREAS, before gaining statewide recognition as a head football coach and molder of men, Bob Becnel distinguished himself as an athlete at River Oaks Academy in Belle Chasse; in 1976, he was named to the All District team for both football and basketball, and he earned the title of District 12-AA Most Valuable Defensive Football Player; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Bob Becnel earned a bachelor of science degree in physical education from Tulane University, where he received many honors for his three years as a football letterman and two years starting as an outside linebacker, including being named to the 1979 All South Independent First Team, as an honorable mention to the 1979 All-American Team, and as Tulane's permanent team captain during the Green Wave's storied 1979 season, which culminated in their appearance at the Liberty Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Coach Becnel was a football coach in the state of Louisiana for thirty years; from 1982 until 1985, he coached at River Oaks Academy, and from 1986 until 2011, he was a highly effective teacher and coach at Belle Chasse High School, where he also served as athletic director and earned the distinction of being a National Board Certified Teacher; and

WHEREAS, under Coach Becnel's twenty-six years of leadership, the Fighting Cardinals won fifty-nine percent of their games, qualified for the playoffs nineteen times,

reached the state championship twice, and won the 2008 Class 4A state football championship; and

WHEREAS, Coach Becnel's exceptional ability earned him numerous well-deserved accolades, including being named District Coach of the Year in 2001 and 2002, Head West Coach in the Louisiana East/West All-Star Football Game in 2001, and in 2008, New Orleans Quarterback Club Coach of the Year, WGSO Metro Coach of the Year, and 4A State Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, victories aside, Coach Becnel will forever remain a beloved member of the Fighting Cardinals family for the wonderful guidance he gave his players and students both on and off the field, challenging them to succeed not only as athletes but as well-rounded human beings; and

WHEREAS, the strength and vitality of Louisiana communities depend in great measure upon the talents and dedication of educators and coaches like Bob Becnel.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Coach Robert "Bob" Becnel upon his retirement as head football coach at Belle Chasse High School after thirty years of dedicated and highly productive service to Louisiana athletics, does hereby recognize and record his notable accomplishments and manifold contributions to his students, colleagues, family, friends, community, and state, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for continued success and happiness as he embarks upon new challenges and endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Coach Bob Becnel of Belle Chasse.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES