

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR JOHNS

A RESOLUTION

To recognize, commend, and congratulate Joseph T. Miller Sr. for his unselfish and countless contributions to the McNeese State University baseball and softball programs and Lake Charles area youth baseball.

WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller Sr. graduated from Lake Charles High School in 1944, then entered the United States Navy in the V-12 Officer Training program, and, as an officer trainee, attended Mississippi College and Duke University; and

WHEREAS, after college, the Lake Charles native returned home and went to work at F. Miller and Sons Construction Company, a multimillion-dollar construction firm, serving as president from 1960 to 2006; and

WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller Sr. has also served as president for the State Highway and Heavy Associated General Contractors of America, board member and president of Louisiana Council of Associated General Contractors, and director and president of the Lake Charles Associated General Contractors; and

WHEREAS, his service to the Southwest Louisiana community includes serving as director of First National Bank of Lake Charles and as president and member of the board of directors of Lake Charles Memorial Hospital Association, the American Heart Association, United Way of Southwest Louisiana, Campfire USA, and First United Methodist Church of Lake Charles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Miller's activities also include serving as president of the board of directors at the Foreman-Reynaud Community Center, a member of Lake Charles Rotary Club, a volunteer at Abraham's Tent, and a volunteer reader at the Head Start Program at J.D. Clifton Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards for his community service including the Angel Award for Public Service with area youth by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana

and Citizen of the Year awards from the Chamber Southwest Louisiana, Calcasieu Area Council Boy Scouts of America, and South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club; and

WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller is well known in Southwest Louisiana for his interest and support of baseball as he coached South Lake Charles Little League Baseball for forty years making several trips to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and was vice president of the Little League for thirty-six years; and

WHEREAS, over the years, he has been a valued supporter both personally and financially to McNeese State University, where many of his former players have played baseball; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1972, Joseph T. Miller Sr. has served on the McNeese Foundation Board of Directors, receiving their Distinguished Service Award, and he also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from McNeese, and membership with Beta Gamma Sigma at the MSU College of Business; and

WHEREAS, Joseph T. Miller Sr.'s generosity to McNeese includes gifts approaching \$1 million, as he and his late wife, Mary Joyce, have established and/or supported numerous endowed scholarships and professorships including the JP Morgan Chase Bank Professorship in Business and Professorship in Business Research, the Franklin L. and Laura Chavanne Miller Professorship in Science, the Calcasieu Parish Medical Society Professorship in Pre-Med Science, the McElveen Insurance Agency Professorship in Business, the Joe Tommy and Mary Joyce Miller Scholarship in Baseball, the Engineering Campaign, as well as gifts to the athletics department and several other university programs; and

WHEREAS, he recently made a substantially generous financial donation to both the McNeese State University Cowboy Baseball and Cowgirl Softball programs in helping renovate both stadiums; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2016, the Cowboy Diamond will be officially renamed in his honor, "Joe Miller Ballpark" and he is being honored with a day in his name for his contributions to McNeese State University; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize and honor Joseph T. Miller Sr. for his service, dedication, generosity, and loyalty.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize, commend, and congratulate Joseph T. Miller Sr. for his unselfish and countless contributions to the McNeese State University baseball and softball programs and Lake Charles area youth baseball.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Joseph T. Miller Sr.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE