

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 690

WHEREAS, In an exceptional career that spanned more than four decades Lou Holtz distinguished himself as one of the top coaches in college football; and

WHEREAS, A native of West Virginia and a graduate of East Liverpool High School in Ohio, Lou Holtz earned a bachelor's degree at Kent State University, where he was a linebacker for two seasons before an injury ended his playing career; he began coaching as an assistant for the Iowa Hawkeyes football team in 1960, and he later served in that role at the College of William and Mary, the University of Connecticut, the University of South Carolina, and Ohio State University; and

WHEREAS, His work as a head coach began in 1969 at William and Mary; after directing the North Carolina State University program from 1972 to 1975, he joined the NFL to helm the New York Jets for the 1976 season; the following year, he returned to NCAA football with the University of Arkansas, and he went on to coach at the University of Minnesota before beginning his outstanding 11-year run at Notre Dame; he closed out his career with the South Carolina Gamecocks from 1999 to 2004; and

WHEREAS, Coach Holtz compiled nearly 250 wins as a college head coach, and at the time of his retirement, he was ranked third in victories among active coaches and eighth in winning percentage; he took teams to more than 20 NCAA bowl games, and he reached the pinnacle of success in 1988, when the Fighting Irish clinched the national championship after compiling a perfect 12-0 record; other highlights include winning conference titles with the College of William and Mary in 1970, North Carolina State in 1973, and Arkansas in 1979; today, he remains the only college football coach to have ever piloted six different programs to bowl games, to have won bowl games with five different teams, or to have led four separate schools to Top 20 finishes; and

WHEREAS, Widely revered for his contributions to the game, Coach Holtz has been the recipient of a host of accolades; in both 1977 and 1988, he earned three prestigious honors: the Paul "Bear" Bryant Award, the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, and *Sporting News* College Football Coach of the Year Award; moreover, he was presented with the 1972 Atlantic Coast Conference Coach of the Year Award, the 1977 Walter Camp Coach of the Year Award, and the 2000 Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year Award; in recognition of his many achievements, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2008; and

WHEREAS, The tremendous passion, leadership, and vision that Lou Holtz brought to each of the football teams he guided continues to inspire generations of athletes and football fans alike, and his accomplishments are indeed deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby honor Lou Holtz for his exemplary career as a coach and extend to him sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Coach Holtz as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

Fallon

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 3, 2019.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate