

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY SENATORS DORSEY-COLOMB, WHITE, ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH AND WARD AND REPRESENTATIVES BARROW, CARTER, FOIL, GREENE, HONORE, JAMES, PONTI, RICHARDSON, SMITH, ALFRED WILLIAMS AND WILLMOTT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Seimone Augustus upon her receipt of the Most Valuable Player award presented by the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) for the 2011 Championship Finals.

WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper to acknowledge the athletic prowess, mental agility, and physical determination of star guard/forward, Seimone Augustus, No. 33, a six-year veteran of the Minnesota Lynx professional women's basketball team; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Seimone Augustus led her team to clinch a first place victory in the Western Conference and to garner the coveted WNBA Championship title; and

WHEREAS, Seimone Augustus is a Baton Rouge native and the daughter of proud parents, Seymore and Kim Augustus; and

WHEREAS, it is to understate the obvious that Seimone Augustus is an exceptional athlete; she is an athletic phenomenon of the highest caliber, whose extraordinary abilities emerged at an early age while shooting hoops with her father, who coached her to play her very best at all times; and

WHEREAS, notice of her talents began early on even before she entered Capitol High School when a teenaged Seimone appeared on the magazine cover of Sports Illustrated for Women; even then she was touted as "the next Michael Jordan" and interest in her stunning abilities on the basketball court continued to escalate throughout her collegiate

career as a Lady Tiger at Louisiana State University, her status as the Number One Draft Pick in the WNBA in 2006 with the Minnesota Lynx, and continues to the present with her ranking as perhaps one of the most exceptional athletes, male or female, of all time; and

WHEREAS, it would be futile to attempt to name all of her accolades, awards, recognitions, and scoring records, for those honors are more numerous than stars in the sky, and many titles were won multiple times; and

WHEREAS, while she attended LSU, the Lady Tigers made five straight NCAA Final Four appearances; Seimone thrived under the tutelage of legendary women's basketball coach, the late Sue Gunter, and athletic director, Skip Bertman, proclaimed her, "The single most important recruit in the history of LSU athletics"; and

WHEREAS, Seimone Augustus set a high standard of performance, both scholastically and athletically, for young athletes to emulate by maintaining a 3.0+ grade point average and establishing both collegiate and professional sports records that may stand for decades or may never be surpassed; and

WHEREAS, Seimone Augustus made "lightning strike" twice when on January 24, 2010, her LSU Lady Tiger jersey, No. 33, was retired, the first woman athlete in the school's history to receive such recognition, and in September 2011, she was enshrined in the LSU Athletic Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, in the off season, she maintained her edge with play in the international basketball circuit, playing for Dynamo Moscow in Russia, Galatasaray in Turkey, and as a gold medalist on the 2008 United States Women's Olympic Team (Beijing); and

WHEREAS, Seimone Augustus has proved to be made of "all the right stuff", to overcome and rehabilitate from what could have been a career-ending knee injury with the determination and drive that has become her trademark - she is unstoppable; and

WHEREAS, Seimone Augustus remains a kind, friendly, and gracious person with a quick smile and a warm demeanor, who continues to be close to her family and teammates, and remains humble and grateful for her abundant blessings and success; and

WHEREAS, Seimone Augustus is the "perfect storm" of basketball artistry, skill, and understanding of the game that has established her legacy as one of the greatest athletes in the history of the NCAA and women's professional sports.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Seimone Augustus for her extraordinary accomplishments, and on leading her team, the Minnesota Lynx, to capture the 2011 WNBA Championship Title, and for receiving the Most Valuable Player award, and hereby thanks her for her many contributions to women's athletics and for bringing great pride to her home state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Seimone Augustus.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES