

By: Representative Haak

HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL HEAD COACH JEFF SODERQUIST UPON HIS
RETIREMENT AND COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL PROGRAM.

Subtitle

CONGRATULATING JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HEAD COACH JEFF
SODERQUIST UPON HIS RETIREMENT AND
COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL
PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, after twenty-seven (27) seasons leading the John Brown University women's basketball program, Head Coach Jeff Soderquist announced his retirement on March 26, 2024, in the wake of a record-shattering season that saw the John Brown University Golden Eagles secure a pair of league titles and qualify for the NAIA National Championships; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Jeff Soderquist arrived at John Brown University as a student-athlete in 1988 and continued with John Brown University as the Assistant Director of Athletics and Head Coach of the women's basketball program for the next thirty-six (36) years; and

WHEREAS, in his years as head coach, Jeff Soderquist:

(1) Amassed a program-record four hundred twenty-four (424) wins;



(2) Led the John Brown University Golden Eagles to seven (7) NAIA National Championships;

(3) Led the John Brown University Golden Eagles to a national semifinal finish in 2014; and

(4) Led the John Brown University Golden Eagles through seven (7) 20-win seasons; and

WHEREAS, as the most successful coach in program history, Head Coach Jeff Soderquist orchestrated an incredible final season that produced not only his second-career Sooner Athletic Coach distinction, but also a bevy of program defining moments including the most wins in a single season and the longest winning streak; and

WHEREAS, John Brown University hoisted three (3) new banners in the 2023-2024 season:

(1) Winning the league's regular season title;

(2) Securing the program's first tournament crown; and

(3) Making another appearance in the NAIA National Championships; and

WHEREAS, over the last two (2) seasons, John Brown University compiled a 50-14 record and a 36-8 mark in league play; and

WHEREAS, the John Brown University women's basketball team finished 13-1 in Siloam Springs this past season, setting a new single-season record with a home winning percentage of point nine hundred and twenty-nine (.929); and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Head Coach Jeff Soderquist's players combined to garner thirty-eight (38) All-Sooner Athletic honors including nine (9) first team selections, four (4) SAC Freshmen of the Year picks, and one (1) league Player of the Year nod; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Jeff Soderquist has deeply impacted his student-athletes and the John Brown University community,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL

ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives congratulate John Brown University Women's Head Coach Jeff Soderquist upon his retirement and commend him for his contributions to the John Brown University basketball program.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Head Coach Jeff Soderquist by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.