

By: Senator B. Davis

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS OF COACH DAVE
WILBERS OF THE ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY GOLDEN SUNS
AND TO CONGRATULATE COACH WILBERS ON HIS RETIREMENT.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS OF
COACH DAVE WILBERS OF THE ARKANSAS TECH
UNIVERSITY GOLDEN SUNS AND TO
CONGRATULATE COACH WILBERS ON HIS
RETIREMENT.

WHEREAS, Coach Dave Wilbers became the head coach of the Arkansas Tech University women's Golden Suns basketball program on April 30, 2007; and

WHEREAS, during his first season, Coach Wilbers led the Golden Suns to a twenty-six and six (26-6) overall record, ranking number ten (10) in the nation and reaching the 2008 NCAA Division II Tournament; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the Golden Suns, in double overtime, defeated their opponent to win the 2010 Gulf South Conference Tournament championship; and

WHEREAS, nine (9) days later, Coach Wilbers' team defeated the same opponent in the 2010 NCAA Division II Tournament South Region final, earning Arkansas Tech University's first NCAA Elite Eight appearance in over a decade; and

WHEREAS, in the 2010-2011 season, Coach Wilbers and his Golden Suns



team earned a number one (1) national ranking and went on to once again win the Gulf South Conference Tournament and become the NCAA Division II Tournament South Region champions; and

WHEREAS, in the following seasons, Coach Wilbers led the team to Great American Conference regular season titles, Great American Conference Tournament championships, and secured spots in the NCAA Division II Tournament; and

WHEREAS, during Coach Wilbers' tenure, the Golden Suns earned an impressive three hundred eighty-two (382) victories, nine (9) NCAA Division II Tournament berths, seven (7) regular season conference championships, five (5) conference tournament championships, and two (2) NCAA Division II region titles; and

WHEREAS, among every person who has ever coached basketball at Arkansas Tech University, for either the men's or women's teams, Coach Wilbers ranks number two (2) in all-time wins, landing behind only Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame member Joe Foley; and

WHEREAS, Coach Wilbers ends his career tied with another Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame member, Sam Hindsman, for most seasons as a head basketball coach at Arkansas Tech University, with nineteen (19) seasons; and

WHEREAS, Abby Davis, Athletic Director at Arkansas Tech University, said, "Coach Wilbers achieved one of the most difficult feats in his profession – he arrived with great expectations, and he exceeded them. His tenure at Arkansas Tech has enhanced the reputation of the Golden Suns as being one of the most successful programs in women's college basketball. And he has done all of this while maintaining a remarkable degree of academic achievement that has prepared the student-athletes under his direction for success beyond basketball",

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate recognize Coach Dave Wilbers for his impact on women's college basketball at Arkansas Tech University during his illustrious tenure and congratulate Coach Wilbers on his retirement and the lasting legacy he leaves behind in the Golden Suns basketball program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Coach Dave Wilbers by the Secretary of the Senate.