



HR0218

LRB101 11716 MST 58270 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Bob Hallberg on the occasion of his retirement as athletic director and head coach of the women's basketball team at Saint Xavier University in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Hallberg joined the Saint Xavier University's athletic department in 1971 as the head men's basketball coach, and within six years, the Cougars won two Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) championships; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Hallberg moved on to his alma-mater, Chicago State University, in 1977, and led the men's basketball program to an average of 25 wins per season for the next 10 years, including an National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national semifinal appearance and a No. 1 ranking; when Chicago State University began their transition into NCAA Division I competition, he guided the team to 16 victories, setting a record for the most wins for a Division I program in its debut season; he then moved on to the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he was the men's basketball coach for nine seasons; and

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WHEREAS, Bob Hallberg returned to Saint Xavier University

1 in 2000 to build the new women's basketball program; in the  
2 team's very first season, the Cougars won 22 games and have  
3 dipped below that total just once in the 19 seasons since; he  
4 has led the Cougars to 13 CCAC regular season championships, 10  
5 CCAC tournament titles, and an appearance in the NAIA national  
6 championship game in 2017; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2001, Bob Hallberg also took on the role of  
8 athletic director; Saint Xavier University had nine varsity  
9 programs competing in his first year and now has 19 varsity  
10 sports, each one having qualified for their respective NAIA  
11 national championships at least once during his tenure; in  
12 2011, Saint Xavier won their first-ever national title,  
13 claiming the NAIA Football National Championship; and

14 WHEREAS, Bob Hallberg earned his 500th career victory with  
15 the Cougars on February 9, 2019 in a 73 to 44 win at Indiana  
16 University-South Bend; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
18 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
19 we congratulate Bob Hallberg on his retirement as athletic  
20 director and head coach of the women's basketball team at Saint  
21 Xavier University, and we wish him the best in all his future  
22 endeavors; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to Bob Hallberg as a symbol of our respect and  
3 esteem.