

By: Bolton

H.R. No. 1339

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, With the retirement of women's basketball coach Jody
2 Conradt from The University of Texas at Austin, a legendary
3 coaching career draws to a close after nearly four decades of
4 record-setting achievements and the attainment of countless
5 individual and team milestones; and

6 WHEREAS, Among the winningest coaches in college basketball
7 history, Coach Conradt has compiled a remarkable record of 900 wins
8 and 307 losses during 38 years of coaching at the collegiate level;
9 notably, she was the first women's basketball coach to achieve 700
10 career wins, reaching that plateau on December 18, 1997; and

11 WHEREAS, During her 31 seasons leading the Longhorns, the
12 six-time National Coach of the Year guided her teams to the 1986
13 NCAA National Championship, three NCAA Final Four appearances, 27
14 national postseason berths, and an impressive 783 victories against
15 just 245 defeats; and

16 WHEREAS, A Goldthwaite native with bachelor's and master's
17 degrees from Baylor University, Jody Conradt starred on the
18 basketball court for the Goldthwaite High School Eagles and the
19 Baylor Bears before beginning her teaching and coaching career at
20 Waco Midway High School; she entered the collegiate coaching ranks
21 at Sam Houston State University, where she served as head
22 basketball coach and also oversaw the school's volleyball and track
23 teams; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1973, Coach Conradt moved to UT-Arlington, where

1 she played an integral role in the creation of the university's
2 women's athletics program, serving as athletics director and
3 coaching basketball, volleyball, and softball; her success in that
4 endeavor led to employment as head coach of the women's basketball
5 and volleyball teams at UT-Austin in 1976, and over the next three
6 decades she established herself as the most influential and highly
7 regarded coach and administrator in the history of women's
8 athletics at The University of Texas at Austin; and

9 WHEREAS, The achievements of Coach Conradt's heralded 1986
10 national championship squad set the modern-day benchmark for
11 excellence in women's college basketball; the Longhorns became the
12 first Division I women's team to go undefeated through an entire
13 season, posting a 34-0 record, and that talented group of
14 student-athletes rightfully earned a place in the annals of sports
15 history; and

16 WHEREAS, A teacher first and foremost, Coach Conradt has
17 encouraged the young women placed in her charge to work toward
18 self-improvement both on the basketball court and in the classroom,
19 and her amazing 99 percent graduation rate is a mark that few
20 coaches can match; inducted into the prestigious International
21 Scholar-Athlete Hall of Fame in 2003, she has also earned a place in
22 the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame, the Naismith
23 Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, and the Women's Basketball Hall
24 of Fame and was one of seven finalists for the Naismith Women's
25 Basketball Coach of the Century award; and

26 WHEREAS, Numerous other honors have been bestowed on Coach
27 Conradt during her superlative coaching career, including the Carol

1 Eckman Award, the highest annual honor presented by the Women's
2 Basketball Coaches Association; she has been named Conference Coach
3 of the Year seven times and has received recognition from the
4 National Association for Girls and Women in Sports, the Kansas City
5 Sports Association, the Girl Scouts-Lone Star Council, and Caritas
6 of Austin, which presented her with the Harvey Penick Award for
7 Excellence in the Game of Life in 2003; and

8 WHEREAS, Jody Conradt is a true trailblazer in women's
9 athletics, and the significant contributions that she has made to
10 the sport of basketball and to the players she has mentored ensure
11 that her positive influence will continue to be felt for years to
12 come; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
14 Legislature hereby congratulate Jody Conradt on her exceptional
15 tenure as head coach of The University of Texas Longhorns women's
16 basketball team and honor her for the many young lives she has
17 changed for the better through her leadership and dedication; and,
18 be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for Coach Conradt as an expression of high regard by the
21 Texas House of Representatives.