

By: Craddick

H.R. No. 1972

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Sylvia Ferdon, head coach of the Baylor University  
2 women's golf team, is retiring on May 31, 2011, after a notable  
3 career spanning 17 years; and

4           WHEREAS, Coach Ferdon has guided the program since 1994 and  
5 helped the Lady Bears to attain a new level of prominence as they  
6 became strong contenders for the Big 12 title and regularly earned a  
7 spot in the NCAA regional tournament; and

8           WHEREAS, A successful player before she entered the coaching  
9 ranks, Sylvia Ferdon was a member of the golf team at the University  
10 of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and has been inducted into that school's  
11 athletic hall of fame; she went on to compete on the Ladies  
12 Professional Golf Association Tour for five years as well as in  
13 other professional events, and she took part in the LPGA  
14 Championship in 1992; in addition to her undergraduate degree, she  
15 holds a master's degree in education from Tarleton State  
16 University; and

17           WHEREAS, This skilled mentor gained her first experience as a  
18 coach at the University of Florida, where she was an assistant in  
19 1973-1974, and at Florida State University, where she served as  
20 head coach the following year; she has numerous years of experience  
21 as an instructor and has been a Class A member of the LPGA Teaching  
22 and Club Professionals Division since 1990; and

23           WHEREAS, After being appointed to her position overseeing the  
24 Baylor women's golf program, Coach Ferdon quickly demonstrated her

1 knack for recruiting quality athletes, and her ability to teach and  
2 inspire led to success on the course; the Lady Bears took part in  
3 the NCAA regionals in 10 of the past 12 years and received the  
4 team's first berth in the NCAA Championship in 2004; moreover, the  
5 squad realized its highest all-time finishes in the Big 12 under her  
6 direction, with numerous players earning conference honors; in  
7 recognition of her fine work, she received the Big 12 Coach of the  
8 Year award in 2000 and 2009; and

9       WHEREAS, Coach Ferdon has also created an environment that  
10 has helped players to excel in their studies; her athletes have been  
11 named to the Academic All-Big 12 Team 37 times, and the Lady Bears  
12 received awards from the NCAA Division 1 Academic Performance  
13 Program in both 2009 and 2010; and

14       WHEREAS, Through her knowledge, leadership, and commitment  
15 to excellence, Sylvia Ferdon has enhanced the stature of the Baylor  
16 University women's golf program while serving as a role model to  
17 countless young women; now, therefore, be it

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
19 Legislature hereby honor Sylvia Ferdon on the occasion of her  
20 retirement as head coach of the Baylor University women's golf team  
21 and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued happiness; and,  
22 be it further

23       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for Coach Ferdon as an expression of high regard by the  
25 Texas House of Representatives.