

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1077 _____

By: Dorman of the House

5 and

6 Laster of the Senate

7
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Concurrent Resolution commending Coach Eddie Sutton
10 for his outstanding coaching career; and directing
11 distribution.

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13 WHEREAS, Eddie Sutton was born on March 12, 1936, in Bucklin,
14 Kansas; and

15 WHEREAS, at an early age, he developed a love for basketball and
16 eventually played collegiate ball at Oklahoma A&M under Coach Henry
17 P. Iba; and

18 WHEREAS, he was led to coaching, first for the youth of Tulsa
19 Central, then to found the Southern Idaho basketball program, and
20 then to Creighton, Arkansas, and Kentucky, eventually retiring after
21 sixteen years at his alma mater, Oklahoma State University; and

22 WHEREAS, during his coaching career, Sutton was the first coach
23 to lead four different schools to NCAA tournaments, three times
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1 reaching the Final Four, and is only the fifth NCAA coach to reach
2 800 wins; and

3 WHEREAS, he is recognized as only one of two coaches to earn
4 "coach of the year" accolades in four different leagues, and was
5 named National Coach of the Year in 1978 and 1986; and

6 WHEREAS, in his greatest challenge as a leader, he comforted the
7 Oklahoma State University community through recovery from the
8 tragedy of a plane crash that killed ten members of the OSU
9 basketball family; and

10 WHEREAS, Sutton, who has suffered the disease of alcoholism,
11 turned this into an effort to develop an addiction treatment center
12 located at Oklahoma State University to help students avoid and
13 overcome the problems he has personally experienced; and

14 WHEREAS, he continues to generously devote his time and spirit
15 to the State of Oklahoma with his current project to build a youth
16 sports facility in Tulsa County that will serve basketball,
17 volleyball, and ice sports, and where participants will be required
18 to participate in life skills training to prevent substance abuse,
19 reduce obesity in kids, and promote healthy athletics in a positive,
20 family-oriented atmosphere; and

21 WHEREAS, Sutton and his wife, Patsy, have dedicated their lives
22 to making the youth around them better citizens, as seen by their
23 three sons, Steve, Sean, and Scott, and nine wonderful
24 grandchildren; and

1 WHEREAS, Sutton returned to coaching in 2007, assuming the
2 interim head coaching job for the University of San Francisco Dons,
3 where he finished the 2007-2008 season with an overall NCAA
4 basketball record of 804-327 over 37 seasons.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
7 CONCURRING THEREIN:

8 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives hereby commends Coach
9 Eddie Sutton and extends best wishes for his outstanding
10 accomplishment of reaching 804 wins in his collegiate coaching
11 career, and 1,006 wins in his overall coaching career.

12 THAT an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Coach
13 Sutton as an expression of high regard by the Oklahoma House of
14 Representatives.

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16 51-2-9972 AM 04/15/08

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