

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring Jim Kessler upon his retirement as Head Men's Basketball Coach at Grace College.

MISHLER

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 121st General Assembly (2019)

SENATE RESOLUTION _____

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring Jim Kessler upon his
2 retirement as Head Men's Basketball Coach at Grace College.

3 *Whereas, After 42 years as Head Men's Basketball Coach*
4 *at Grace College, Jim Kessler retired at the conclusion of the*
5 *2018-2019 season;*

6 *Whereas, After playing basketball for four years and*
7 *graduating from Grace College in 1970, Kessler returned to his*
8 *alma mater as Head Coach of the Lancers in 1977;*

9 *Whereas, Over the course of Coach Kessler's tenure, he*
10 *became one of the most successful men's college basketball*
11 *coaches in history, finishing his career 28th all-time with 788*
12 *victories, with 18 seasons with at least 20 wins, 19 national*
13 *tournament appearances, and a 1992 NAIA National*
14 *Championship;*

15 *Whereas, Coach Kessler's numerous accolades include*
16 *being named Crossroads League Coach of the Year, NCCAA*
17 *Regional Coach of the Year, NAIA Coach of the Year, and*
18 *NCCAA Coach of the Year, and Coach Kessler has been*
19 *inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame, NCCAA Hall of Fame,*

2019

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1 *and the inaugural class of the Grace College Athletic Hall of*
2 *Fame;*

3 *Whereas, Affectionately called "Coach K" by his players*
4 *and the community, Coach Kessler was also given the*
5 *opportunity to represent Grace College as a court coach for*
6 *USA Basketball's World University Games' Training Camp,*
7 *helping select the final roster for the USA team;*

8 *Whereas, Off the court, Coach Kessler helps organize*
9 *annual tournaments in Kosciusko County to raise funds and*
10 *support for organizations like Habitat for Humanity and the*
11 *Kosciusko County Care Cancer Fund, and, in recognition of his*
12 *community service, Coach Kessler has received the Pete*
13 *Thorne Memorial Award, and the National Association of*
14 *Basketball Coaches Guardians of the Game National Award for*
15 *Service;*

16 *Whereas, Coach Kessler's mission over his 42 year career*
17 *was to help his players grow in their faith and as young men*
18 *through mission trips, community service projects, in-season*
19 *outreach opportunities, and Lancer Basketball Camps; and*

20 *Whereas, After retirement, Coach Kessler plans to spend*
21 *time with his wife, Susanne, and their four daughters and*
22 *twelve grandchildren: Therefore,*

23 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
24 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

25 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate honors Jim Kessler upon his
26 retirement as Head Men's Basketball Coach at Grace College.

27 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
28 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Jim Kessler and his family.

