

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Coach
2 Howard Schnellenberger.

3 WHEREAS, this body pauses on this day to rightfully honor a legend of Kentucky
4 athletics and a coach who became synonymous with the sport of football in this
5 Commonwealth, the great Howard Schnellenberger, upon his passing on March 27, 2021;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, a native of Saint Meinrad, Indiana, Howard Leslie Schnellenberger
8 was educated at Louisville's Flaget High School and the University of Kentucky, where
9 he was named a 1955 All-American; and

10 WHEREAS, after playing briefly for the Canadian Football League's Toronto
11 Argonauts, Howard Schnellenberger worked as an assistant coach under Blanton Collier
12 at the University of Kentucky; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1961, Howard Schnellenberger joined legendary Coach Bear
14 Bryant's staff at Alabama, and was instrumental in recruiting Joe Namath and Ken Stabler
15 to play for the Crimson Tide, which won three national championships in five seasons
16 during Coach Schnellenberger's tenure in Tuscaloosa; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Schnellenberger joined the staff of the National Football
18 League's Los Angeles Rams in 1966. He was then hired by Coach Don Shula and the
19 Miami Dolphins in 1970, and was the offensive coordinator during the Dolphins' historic
20 1972 undefeated season; and

21 WHEREAS, after stints with the Baltimore Colts and the University of Miami,
22 where he led the Hurricanes to the 1983 national championship, Coach Schnellenberger
23 returned to Kentucky after being named head coach of the University of Louisville; and

24 WHEREAS, taking over for a struggling program, Coach Schnellenberger improved
25 on the team's 8-win season in his fourth year to win 24 games over the next three seasons.
26 He would lead the Cardinals to two bowl wins, including a 34-7 win over Alabama in the
27 1991 Fiesta Bowl. The 1991 season was a historic one for the Cardinals, which went 10-

1 1-1 and finished the season ranked 11th nationally; and

2 WHEREAS, Coach Schnellenberger left Louisville after the 1994 season, taking the
3 job at Oklahoma and then finishing his extraordinary career at Florida Atlantic
4 University, which named its playing field after him in 2014; and

5 WHEREAS, rarely in Kentucky's history has a coach had such a profound impact
6 on a sport as Howard Schnellenberger has had in this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, for this reason, Howard Schnellenberger is honored on this day in this
8 chamber, and his many accomplishments as a football coach, a leader of young men, and
9 a human being of the first order are rightfully celebrated; and

10 WHEREAS, Howard Schnellenberger is preceded in death by his son, Stephen. He
11 leaves behind a wife, Beverly; sons, Stuart and Timothy; three grandchildren; and three
12 great-grandchildren;

13 NOW, THEREFORE,

14 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
15 ***Kentucky:***

16 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate, both individually and collectively,
17 hereby extend their most profound sympathy upon the passing of legendary Coach
18 Howard Schnellenberger, and posthumously thank him for his many contributions to the
19 University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville.

20 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
21 memory of Coach Howard Schnellenberger.

22 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
23 Resolution to Senator Morgan McGarvey for delivery.