

As Offered

**135th General Assembly
Regular Session
2023-2024**

H. R. No. 124

Representative Miller, M.

A RESOLUTION

Honoring Kari Pickens

on being named the 2023 NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 135th
General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to commend Kari Pickens on being
presented with the 2023 NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year
Award by the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association; and

WHEREAS, Kari Pickens is deserving of recognition, for in
receiving this richly deserved distinction, she joins the ranks of
some of the most illustrious and talented sports figures in the
history of collegiate women’s basketball. As head coach of the Ashland
University women’s basketball team, she led her squad to an exemplary
37-0 season and this year’s NCAA Division II National Championship
title, and we applaud her on her exceptional record of achievement as
the first woman in Division II history to win a national championship
as a player, assistant coach, and head coach; and

WHEREAS, Kari Pickens’ remarkable prowess has earned her the
respect of fans and opponents alike, and we are pleased to recognize
such outstanding skill and sportsmanship. To her credit, she has
guided the Eagles with unwavering expertise, always encouraging her
players to push forward in pursuit of victory, and her tremendous
talent as a mentor is reflected in their success. She can be proud
that the example she has set will long stand as a hallmark worthy of
emulation; and

WHEREAS, In an educational system that seeks to teach the future
leaders of our state and nation the fundamentals of self-reliance and
the rewards of individual and group effort, athletic competition has
become a valuable educational tool. With tremendous patience, Kari
Pickens has coaxed admirable performances out of her players, and the

lessons she has imparted, both on and off the court, will undoubtedly 27
be of great benefit to them throughout their lives; therefore be it 28

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of 29
the 135th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, 30
congratulate Kari Pickens on her recent honor and salute her as one of 31
Ohio's finest citizens; and be it further 32

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit 33
a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to Kari Pickens. 34