

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS
2 OF COACH ED CHEFF.
3

4 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

5 WHEREAS, Ed Cheff was native to the Northwest, having been born in
6 Butte, Montana, and raised in Woodland, Washington; and

7 WHEREAS, Ed attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where he
8 played baseball and football; and

9 WHEREAS, Ed began his coaching career as an assistant high school foot-
10 ball coach in Tillamook, Oregon. In 1973, he became the baseball coach at
11 Lower Columbia College in Longview, Washington, where in four seasons his
12 record was 120-30; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1977, Ed moved to Idaho, assuming the head baseball coaching
14 position at Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC) in Lewiston, where he compiled
15 a 1,705-430-2 record, the fifth-most wins of a college baseball coach at any
16 level of competition. With a .798 winning percentage, the second-highest
17 for a college baseball coach, Ed achieved one of the most successful records
18 in college baseball and in college sports in general; and

19 WHEREAS, under Ed's leadership, the LCSC Warriors became a national
20 powerhouse, winning 16 national championships in the National Association
21 of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), by far the most for any college base-
22 ball coach at any level; and

23 WHEREAS, Ed's baseball teams were famous for their discipline and
24 toughness, with many of their practices inspired by football drills; and

25 WHEREAS, Ed's teams, despite playing in the NAIA, had a winning record
26 against their National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) opponents,
27 including celebrated victories over highly ranked teams such as eventual
28 NCAA champion Wichita State in 1989; and

29 WHEREAS, Ed's athletes included 72 NAIA All Americans and three NAIA
30 Players of the Year. Of the athletes Ed coached, 114 were selected in the
31 Major League draft and 16 played in the Major League; and

32 WHEREAS, Ed also served on the coaching staff for Team USA baseball in
33 1991 and 1994; and

34 WHEREAS, Ed was named NAIA Coach of the Year eight times and won the
35 Lefty Gomez Award for lifetime achievement in amateur baseball in 2009; and

36 WHEREAS, Ed retired in 2010, remarking that he "never got burned out on
37 baseball" and that he "loved it to the last game, the last practice"; and

38 WHEREAS, upon Ed's retirement, Coach Woody Hunt of Cumberland Univer-
39 sity called him "maybe the greatest coach in college baseball history"; and

40 WHEREAS, Ed was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1994, the American
41 Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2006, and the National College
42 Baseball Hall of Fame in 2012; and

1 WHEREAS, Ed was the first inductee in the Warrior Hall of Fame in 2011;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, LCSC renamed its baseball stadium the Ed Cheff Stadium at Har-
4 ris Field in 2017; and

5 WHEREAS, Ed and his baseball teams were known for their community out-
6 reach, volunteering at schools and on other service projects; and

7 WHEREAS, Ed passed away at home on January 15, 2022, at the age of 78; and

8 WHEREAS, Ed left an indelible mark on college baseball, LCSC, Lewiston,
9 and the State of Idaho.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular
11 Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of
12 Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislature honors the life
13 and achievements of Coach Ed Cheff, recognizes his outstanding contribu-
14 tions to college baseball, Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, and the
15 State of Idaho, and extends its condolences and best wishes to his family and
16 friends, including Ed's wife Karen and his sons Trevor, Tyler, and Toby.