

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026

SR 31

4
5 By: Senators M. Johnson, F. Love, J. Scott, Caldwell

6
7
8 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

9 TO RECOGNIZE COACH VAN COMPTON ON HER
10 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, CHAMPIONSHIPS, AND IMPACT THROUGHOUT
11 HER FIFTY-ONE-YEAR COACHING CAREER; TO CONGRATULATE
12 HER ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY-EIGHT (38) SEASONS
13 AS THE HEAD COACH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT
14 LITTLE ROCK WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM; AND TO
15 CONGRATULATE HER FOR HER INDUCTION INTO THE ARKANSAS
16 SPORTS HALL OF FAME.

17
18
19 **Subtitle**

20 TO RECOGNIZE COACH VAN COMPTON ON HER
21 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT THROUGHOUT
22 HER FIFTY-ONE-YEAR COACHING CAREER; AND
23 TO CONGRATULATE HER ON HER RETIREMENT
24 AND INDUCTION INTO THE ARKANSAS SPORTS
25 HALL OF FAME.

26
27 WHEREAS, Van Compton, nee Gore, was born July 9, 1944, a native of Forrest
28 City, Arkansas, and one (1) of eight (8) siblings; and

29
30 WHEREAS, after graduating from Arkansas State University in 1965, she
31 returned to her hometown to work as a physical education teacher at Forrest
32 City High School; and

33
34 WHEREAS, in 1974, Coach Compton was hired by Arkansas College, now Lyon
35 College, to help start the women’s sports program there following the 1972
36 passage of Title IX; and



1
2 WHEREAS, Coach Compton spent the next eleven (11) years coaching the
3 women's volleyball and women's basketball teams at Arkansas College; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in 1986, Coach Compton became the women's basketball coach at the
6 University of Arkansas at Little Rock; and
7

8 WHEREAS, when the women's basketball program was discontinued at the
9 University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 1988, Coach Compton was tapped to
10 start the women's volleyball program and become the women's athletic
11 coordinator at the school; and
12

13 WHEREAS, in Coach Compton's second season as the University of Arkansas at
14 Little Rock Trojans women's volleyball coach, her team finished with a record
15 of 27-11 as a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics program; and
16

17 WHEREAS, in 1990, University of Arkansas at Little Rock posted a record of
18 twenty-one wins and three losses (21-3) and placed second at the National
19 Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Tournament; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock transitioned to the
22 NCAA Division I level in 1991, becoming a member of the Sun Belt Conference;
23 and
24

25 WHEREAS, in 1993, Coach Compton was named Sun Belt Coach of the Year after
26 posting a 24-12 record and finishing second in the league; and
27

28 WHEREAS, in 1996, Coach Compton and the University of Arkansas at Little
29 Rock won its first of three (3) consecutive Sun Belt Conference Tournament
30 Championships, earning three (3) straight appearances in the NCAA Division I
31 Volleyball Tournament; and
32

33 WHEREAS, Coach Compton and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock won
34 the 2000 Sun Belt Conference regular season and tournament championships,
35 returning to the NCAA Tournament; and
36

1 WHEREAS, in 2014, Coach Compton fielded the best University of Arkansas at
2 Little Rock team in program history, finishing the Sun Belt Conference
3 regular season with a perfect record, twenty wins and zero losses (20-0),
4 making it the only Sun Belt team to ever do so; and
5

6 WHEREAS, in 2014, Coach Compton's team finished the season with an overall
7 record of thirty wins and five losses (30-5) and cracked the American
8 Volleyball Coaches Association's Top 25 poll for the first time; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock won the Sun Belt
11 Conference Tournament Championship in 2014, earning another trip to the NCAA
12 Tournament and advancing to the NCAA Second Round for the first time in
13 program history; and
14

15 WHEREAS, Coach Compton earned her second Sun Belt Conference Coach of the
16 Year honor in 2014, while becoming the winningest coach in Sun Belt
17 Conference history and being named the Southwest Region Coach of the Year by
18 the American Volleyball Coaches Association; and
19

20 WHEREAS, Coach Compton retired as Head Volleyball Coach at the University
21 of Arkansas at Little Rock in December 2025; and
22

23 WHEREAS, Coach Compton won over six hundred (600) matches at the
24 University of Arkansas at Little Rock, finishing with a record of six hundred
25 three wins and five hundred twenty-seven losses (603-527) and an overall
26 record of six hundred seventy-five wins and six hundred seven losses (675-
27 607); and
28

29 WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock volleyball program
30 under Coach Compton won four (4) regular-season championships, five (5)
31 conference tournament championships, and made five (5) post-season
32 appearances; and
33

34 WHEREAS, Coach Compton expanded her reach to impact young female athletes
35 in Arkansas by founding the Little Rock Juniors Volleyball Club, a youth
36 volleyball club, a nonprofit club that is concluding its twenty-eighth season

1 of competition, making it one of the oldest volleyball clubs in Arkansas; and

2
3 WHEREAS, Coach Compton has seen the evolution of women's athletics change
4 from the advent of Title IX to today and recognizes that collegiate athletics
5 can change the lives of women in our state, our nation, and the world, which
6 can be specifically seen by her choice to recruit student-athletes from war-
7 torn regions like Bosnia in the 1990s to "give those young people a chance to
8 come here and build something different – that's something I'll always be
9 proud of"; and

10
11 WHEREAS, on April 10, 2026, Coach Van Compton was inducted into the
12 Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame,

13
14 NOW THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
16 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

17
18 THAT the Senate recognize and congratulate Coach Van Compton for her
19 impact on the sport of volleyball in Arkansas; her success in building
20 women's athletics programs at Lyon College and the University of Arkansas at
21 Little Rock; the championships, postseason appearances, and accolades
22 bestowed upon her by her coaching peers; her impact on female athletes in
23 Arkansas, the United States, and around the world throughout her fifty-one-
24 year coaching career; and her 2026 induction into the Arkansas Sports Hall of
25 Fame.

26
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be
28 presented to Coach Van Compton, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock
29 Department of Athletics, and the Little Rock Juniors Volleyball Club by the
30 Secretary of the Senate.