

## SJR40 INTRODUCED



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2 1Q5J3LL-1

3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,  
4 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,  
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,  
6 Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed,  
7 Roberts, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,  
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 21-Mar-24



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SJR\_\_\_ COMMENDING COACH ROBERT JOHN SPROWL FOR HIS  
OUTSTANDING HEAD COACHING CAREER WITH SHELTON STATE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure,  
highest commendations and congratulations are herein  
conveyed to "Bobby" Sprowl for his remarkable coaching  
career as the head baseball coach of the Shelton State  
Community College Buccaneers baseball team; and

WHEREAS, a Tampa, Florida, native, Coach Sprowl  
played baseball for The University of Alabama (UA) from  
1976-1977; in 1977, he earned second team All-American and  
consensus All-SEC selection honors; during the 1977 season,  
Sprowl led the NCAA with 11.5 strikeouts per nine innings  
and finished the season with 118 strikeouts, which still  
ranks second on the UA single-season strikeout list; Sprowl  
was drafted in the second round of the 1977 Major League  
Baseball Draft by the Boston Red Sox as the 39th overall  
pick, making him the first Southeastern Conference (SEC)  
player and the eighth college player selected in the draft;  
and he spent eight seasons in the Major League with the  
Boston Red Sox, Houston Astros, and the Baltimore Orioles;  
and

WHEREAS, Coach Sprowl took over as the Bucs' head  
coach in the fall of 1985 where he made an immediate impact



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29 leading the Bucs to 138 wins and only 45 losses in his first  
30 four seasons with the team, including back-to-back 39-win  
31 seasons in 1988 and 1989; his 1988 team also went a perfect  
32 20-0 in Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) play,  
33 making it the only team in school history to post a perfect  
34 conference record; from 2006-2009, Coach Sprowl led the Bucs  
35 to a school record with four straight 40-win seasons; during  
36 this span, the Bucs had a combined record of 181-74 (.710)  
37 and played in a program record three straight National  
38 Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) World Series;  
39 from 2007-2009, Coach Sprowl led the Bucs to the program's  
40 first win at the national tournament (2007), a runner-up  
41 finish at the national tournament (2008), a program record  
42 49-win season (2008), and a program record of 27 conference  
43 wins (2009); and

44 WHEREAS, in 2023, Coach Sprowl led Shelton State back  
45 to the NJCAA World Series for the second time in three  
46 years; and, after a second-place finish in the ACCC Northern  
47 Division, Coach Sprowl's Bucs posted a 4-1 record en route  
48 to the program's second state championship in the past three  
49 seasons, blasting Wallace State-Dothan 15-3 in the  
50 championship game; and

51 WHEREAS, Coach Sprowl was inducted into the Alabama  
52 Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2009; he was  
53 named to The University of Alabama All-Century Baseball Team  
54 in 1993; he is a 5-time ACCC Coach of the Year winner; and  
55 this year, which marks his 34th season as the Bucs' head  
56 coach, Coach Sprowl will add to his legacy as he will be



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57 inducted into the NJCAA Baseball Hall of Fame; and  
58 WHEREAS, Coach Sprowl has built a lasting legacy as  
59 the head baseball coach with the Shelton State Community  
60 College Buccaneers; he has compiled a 1,143-701 (.613)  
61 record as head coach of the Bucs; his 1,143 wins rank  
62 seventh among active NJCAA head coaches and 20th on the  
63 all-time wins list for NJCAA baseball coaches; he is one of  
64 11 head coaches in the State of Alabama to win 1,000 or more  
65 games; he has sent more than 250 players to four-year  
66 schools; he has had 30 players drafted in the Major League  
67 Draft, including the highest drafted junior college player  
68 in 2022, Drake Logan; he has had three former players play  
69 Major League Baseball; he has led the Bucs to six ACCC State  
70 Tournament victories; and, under Coach Sprowl's leadership,  
71 the Bucs have played in six NJCAA World Series (2007, 2008,  
72 2009, 2012, 2021, and 2023); now therefore,

73 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
74 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this body highly  
75 congratulates, reveres, and honors Coach Bobby Sprowl for  
76 his legendary professional accolades; and, along with best  
77 wishes for continued success in his coaching career, we  
78 dedicate this resolution to him with the utmost respect.