**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE CAROL CLOSE, MANAGER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS FOR BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HER FOR HER THIRTY‑NINE YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Whereas, for thirty‑nine years, BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina (BCBSSC) has enjoyed the professional knowledge, skill, and experience of Carol Close, BCBSSC manager of public affairs, who on October 1, 2015, will begin a well‑deserved retirement; and

Whereas, having joined BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina in 1967, Carol Close has served the company continuously since that time except for the years she devoted to raising her children. In 1996, she took up her duties as manager of public affairs and has served in that post for nineteen years; and

Whereas, well‑respected by her colleagues, Carol has organized, planned, and managed every one of the twenty‑two legislative softball games held during her tenure; and

Whereas, in addition, she has provided dedicated service to our legislators, their families, and hundreds of their constituents by assisting them in navigating their health insurance coverage, often in moments of crisis. She has provided such assistance diligently and with tremendous grace and compassion; and

Whereas, Carol finds strength for her labors in the strong support of her family: her husband, Rory Close; their lovely daughter, Kim Lunsford; and their delightful grandchildren, Taylor and Baleigh Lunsford; and

Whereas, on the occasion of her retirement, Carol’s BCBSSC colleagues will gather to honor her at a celebratory event to be held in October 2015; and

Whereas, appreciative of Carol Close’s long commitment to her profession, the House extends grateful thanks for her service to the citizens of this great State. The members trust she will find much enjoyment in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Carol Close, manager of public affairs for BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, on the occasion of her retirement, commend her for her thirty‑nine years of dedicated service, and extend best wishes for much happiness and fulfillment in the years to come.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Carol Close.

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