**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE JOAN KELLY MULVIHILL OF CHARLESTON ON RUNNING EIGHTY‑ONE MARATHONS DURING HER ATHLETIC CAREER AND TO COMMEND THE COMMITMENT THAT SPURRED HER ON TOWARD THIS ACHIEVEMENT.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Joan Kelly Mulvihill of Charleston compiled an enviable record of participation in more than eighty marathons over the course of her athletic career; and

Whereas, born to parents who in the 1930s emigrated from Ireland to the United States, the young Joan lost both parents. Consequently, she was raised by her sister Pat; and

Whereas, Joan feels that her first marathon consisted of earning her bachelor’s degree, which she received from New Jersey’s Monmouth University in 1983. While still in high school, she began working for New Jersey Bell Telephone Company as a service representative. Later, she was promoted to sales and marketing, and still later she transferred to AT&T Bell Labs as a communications consultant. In 1986, she left the company after twenty‑four years of service. At home, Joan and her husband, John, are celebrating their forty‑seventh anniversary this year; and

Whereas, at the age of thirty‑eight, Joan took up running when she saw one of her husband’s law partners on television participating in the New York marathon. Her first marathon (and still, to her, the most thrilling) took place in New York City. That race began a journey that led Joan to run marathons in all fifty states, as well as abroad in Paris and Dublin, for a grand total of eighty‑one marathons. Her husband supported her by driving her to every state except Alaska and Hawaii; and

Whereas, however, her proudest accomplishment was donating a kidney to her cousin in 2012. They were the oldest donor/recipient pair to that date. Both ladies are doing well now; and

Whereas, the House extends warmest admiration to Joan Kelly Mulvihill in its salute to her athletic achievements. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Joan Kelly Mulvihill of Charleston on running eighty‑one marathons during her athletic career and commend the commitment that spurred her on toward this achievement.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Joan Kelly Mulvihill.

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