**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DEBBIE PARKER HANKINS, JOURNAL CLERK OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HER FOR NEARLY THIRTY‑FIVE YEARS OF HONORABLE AND FAITHFUL SERVICE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the members of the House of Representatives recognize individuals who give tirelessly of themselves as dedicated public servants; and

Whereas, Debbie Parker Hankins, retiring Journal Clerk of the South Carolina House of Representatives, stands among their number as one much admired for her nearly thirty‑five years of distinguished service to the citizens of South Carolina; and

Whereas, born to legendary South Carolina high school football coach Joe Parker and Mrs. Dorothy Parker, Debbie earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of South Carolina. After teaching for a time at Leaphart Elementary School in Columbia, she began her career at the Capitol Complex as a page, next working as a part‑time employee at Legislative Printing and Information Technology Resources, where she learned about legislative processes; and

Whereas, when she was hired by former House Clerk Lois Shealy, her prior experience proved beneficial to the House of Representatives, where Debbie rose to the position of Journal Clerk, a post she has held ever since; and

Whereas, throughout her many years as a state employee, Debbie Hankins has retained an enormous amount of institutional knowledge and displayed amazing recall of legislative activities and precedents, making her an invaluable asset to the House; and

Whereas, during the preparation of daily House Journals, she has performed her duties accurately under three different Clerks and five different Speakers, all of whom appreciated her knowledge and expertise concerning House Rules and proper protocol, as well as her attention to detail and skillful work under pressure; and

Whereas, known for her thoughtfulness of others, Debbie remembers birthdays and other special occasions and visits co‑workers whenever they are sick or hospitalized. Away from the office, she indulges her love for the Gamecocks, attending games through good seasons and bad, forever loyal to her team, even when confronted by overly enthusiastic Clemson fans among staff and members; and

Whereas, the devoted wife of John Hankins, Debbie enjoys spending time with him at their beloved getaway at Pawley’s Island, and the House hopes that her hours of pleasure there will increase with her new retirement leisure; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is witness to the fact that Debbie Parker Hankins can look back in justifiable pride at the high standards of integrity and proficiency that have always been the hallmarks of her service to the State of South Carolina. With one voice, the members wish her well in her retirement and assure her that she will be remembered with affection and gratitude by colleagues and legislative friends for years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Debbie Parker Hankins, Journal Clerk of the South Carolina House of Representatives, upon the occasion of her retirement, commend her for nearly thirty‑five years of honorable and faithful service to the State of South Carolina, and extend best wishes for much happiness and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Debbie Parker Hankins.

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