**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO EXPRESS SINCERE GRATITUDE TO DEBBIE PARKER HANKINS AS SHE RETIRES FROM HER LONG, HONORABLE AND FAITHFUL SERVICE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA AS JOURNAL CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND EXTEND BEST WISHES TO HER FOR A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS RETIREMENT.

Whereas, Debbie Parker Hankins, Journal Clerk of the House of Representatives, retires from a long and distinguished career of service to the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, she is the devoted wife of John Hankins and the beloved daughter of the late legendary South Carolina High School football Coach, Joe Parker, and Mrs. Dorothy Parker, she is also the loving sister of Charles “Cholly” Parker and Joe Parker, Jr., and is a doting aunt to her nephews Brice and Winston, and her niece, Peyton; and

Whereas, Debbie Parker Hankins earned her Bachelors Degree and Masters Degree from the University of South Carolina and taught at Leaphart Elementary School in Columbia; She began her illustrious career at the State House Complex as a page and then as a part‑time employee at Legislative Printing and Information Technology Resources, where she learned about the legislative process; and

Whereas, when she was hired by former House Clerk Lois Shealy, her prior experience carried over to benefit the House of Representatives, where Debbie rose to the position of Journal Clerk, serving faithfully ever since; and

Whereas, in her almost 35 years of dedicated service to the State of South Carolina, Debbie Hankins retained an enormous amount of institutional knowledge and displayed an 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 of the House Rules and proper protocol; and

Whereas, she has fulfilled her responsibilities to the House and to the citizens of South Carolina it serves with her attention to detail and skill under pressure; and

Whereas, Debbie is thoughtful of others, remembering birthdays, special occasions, and visiting co‑workers when they were sick or hospitalized; and

Whereas, she is an avid Gamecock fan, 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, Debbie Parker Hankin’s retirement is well earned, and she deserves the happy realization of a future spent pursuing pleasure at her beloved getaway in Pawley’s Island, with her husband John and her close friends; and

Whereas, she can always look back in justifiable pride at the highest standards of integrity and proficiency that are the hallmarks of her service to the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, it is appropriate for the Members of the House of Representatives to pause in their deliberations to recognize her exemplary service to the House of Representatives and to express their appreciation to her as she departs this Chamber for the last time as a public servant. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives do hereby express their deepest gratitude to Debbie Parker Hankins as she retires from her long and honorable service to the State of South Carolina as Journal Clerk of the House, and extend their sincere wishes to her for a happy and prosperous retirement.

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

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