**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE NANCY THOMPSON OF LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS IN THE FUTURE.

Whereas, Mrs. Nancy Thompson, a South Carolina native, moved to Laurens, South Carolina in 1969 when her parents, Joe and Emma Cothran, opened the Laurens Plaza Bakery; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson, having graduated from Laurens High School and Clemson University with a B. A. degree in Secondary Education in 1975, began her long and successful career in education as a teacher in Oconee County and completed her Master of Education in Personnel Services at Clemson University in 1977; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson moved to Laurens and continued her career in Laurens County School District No. 55 at Laurens Jr. High School from 1976 until 1993 as a teacher, guidance counselor, and assistant principal; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was Assistant Principal of Hickory Tavern School from 1993 to 1994; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was Principal of Laurens Primary School from 1994 through 2000 serving the Pre‑K through grade two students in the City of Laurens; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson became the Director of Administrative Services in Laurens County School District No. 55 in 2000 and during that time she became active in many state professional organizations and committees; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was named Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction in Laurens County School District No. 55 in 2002 and continued in that position until her retirement in June 2009; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was involved in the establishment and expansion of innovative practices in Laurens County School District No. 55, including the Pre‑K through grade eight Montessori program, two child development centers for ages six weeks through fifth grade, the early childhood program, the balanced literacy initiative, standards based assessment, “Professional Development Tuesdays,” and mini‑courses for teacher recertification; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson has been invited to present to her colleagues during many professional conferences, including the South Carolina Association of School Administrators’ Summer Leadership Conference, the South Carolina School Board’s Association, the South Carolina Department of Education Literacy Leadership Institutes, the Montessori Educational Programs International Conference, and the South Carolina Montessori Alliance Conference; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was chosen to participate in Leadership Laurens and was a Leadership Laurens Distinguished Graduate Class XIII in 2000‑2001; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson has served as the Chairman of the South Carolina Department of Education Instructional Leader’s Roundtable, Chairman of the South Carolina Montessori Alliance, Chairman of the Joe Adair Outdoor Educational Center Board, and Chairman of the Western Piedmont Educational Consortium’s Instructional Leader’s Roundtable; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson was the first Chairman and was instrumental in the creation of the Laurens County First Steps Board and was presented the First Steps “Friend of Children Award”; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson has served on other boards and committees and participated in other organizations during her professional career, including the South Carolina State Department of Education Montessori Advisory Council, the South Carolina State Department of Education Response to Intervention Committee, the South Carolina Department of Education School Leadership Executive Institute for District Administrators, the South Carolina Association of School Administrators, the Piedmont Education and Business Alliance, the Laurens County Reading Council, the South Carolina Chapter of the International Reading Council, the International Reading Council, the National Council of Staff Development, the South Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Reading Recovery Council of North America, the National Council of Teachers of English, and CHAMPS; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson is an active member of the First Baptist Church in Laurens where she has contributed her time and talents through participation in the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, Long Range Planning and Facilities Study Committee, and Christian Education Committee; and

Whereas, Mrs. Thompson and her husband, Carroll, are the proud parents of Grayson Bennett Thompson (Ben) and Anna Thompson Brink, and are the proud grandparents of Grayson Bennett Thompson, Jr., Emma Claire Thompson, and Dylan Martin Brink, and a fourth grandchild due in July 2009. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

That the General Assembly of South Carolina congratulates Nancy Thompson on the occasion of her retirement and wishes her much happiness in the future.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. Nancy Thompson.

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