**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND MARY LOUISE CONGDON PRICE OF COLUMBIA FOR HER TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF OUTSTANDING AND DEDICATED SERVICE AS A STAFF MEMBER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE, TO CONGRATULATE HER ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, AND TO WISH HER MUCH SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, Mary Lou Price of Columbia for twenty-eight years has carried out her duties as a staff member of the South Carolina Senate with poise and excellence and will soon enter retirement; and

Whereas, she was born on May 22, 1938, to Southern Belle Lula Hanes Caffey Congdon and Connecticut Yankee Thomas Boss Congdon in New London, Connecticut. Her mother’s Southern roots brought Mary Lou to Hollins College in Roanoke, Virginia, where she met her future husband, Robert H. Price, Jr.; and

Whereas, having moved to Columbia, Mary Lou and her husband raised three sons, Robert Howell Price III, John Peter Price, and Thomas Boss Congdon Price. As a young mother, she was active in the Columbia community, where she served as chair of the Mothers March of Dimes and board member for the American Red Cross and SPCA. In addition, for nearly fifty years, she has been active in her church, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, serving on many committees and volunteering for years at the annual Trinity Bazaar; and

Whereas, the versatile Mary Lou worked at South Carolina National Bank until she and her business partner launched the Friendly Yarn Shop, a hub for cross‑stitching, smocking, knitting, and crocheting instruction and supplies. Before coming to work in the South Carolina Senate, she worked for Nationwide Insurance, but when Senator Ed Saleeby offered her a job as research director of two insurance study committees, she made the move to state government. These study committees later blended to become the Insurance Subcommittee under the Banking and Insurance Committee and were responsible for substantial insurance reform; and

Whereas, in her previous years of service to the Senate, she has assisted Senators Ed Saleeby, Don Holland, and Linda Short. Currently, she supports Senators Gerald Malloy and Clementa Pinckney; and

Whereas, as both Senate members and staff will attest, Mary Lou’s intelligence, friendliness, and organized efficiency have drawn admiration from all with whom she has worked, and her colorful outfits and equally colorful personality will be hard to replace; and

Whereas, during Mary Lou’s well‑earned retirement, the Senate trusts she will find herself more frequently able to spend time indulging her beloved grandchildren and pursuing her pottery and church work; and

Whereas, having set the bar of achievement high in her profession, Mary Lou Price will be remembered with affection and gratitude by colleagues and legislative friends for years to come. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, commend Mary Louise Congdon Price of Columbia for her twenty-eight years of outstanding and dedicated service as a staff member of the South Carolina Senate, congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement, and wish her much success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mary Lou Price.

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