**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR ANN B. MARTIN OF CAMDEN FOR HER MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS SOLOMON BLATT BUILDING MANAGER/CHIEF RECEPTIONIST FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO CONGRATULATE HER ON HER RETIREMENT, AND TO WISH HER MUCH SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, having carried out her duties as Solomon Blatt Building manager/chief receptionist for the South Carolina House of Representatives with poise and excellence, Ann B. Martin of Camden began a well‑deserved retirement on November 15, 2013, after thirty‑three years of dedicated service in that position; and

Whereas, over the years of her service with the House, her intelligence, friendliness, and organized efficiency drew admiration from all with whom she worked; and

Whereas, Ann Martin began her association with the South Carolina House and Blatt Building in the year of its construction, 1978. After serving two years with the House security detail, she became Blatt Building manager/chief receptionist in May 1980 and served at that post for more than three decades under Speakers Carter, Schwartz, Sheheen, Wilkins, and Harrell; and

Whereas, having served longer than any current House member, Ann worked as manager/chief receptionist for seventeen House sessions and managed the juggling of offices required after each election with determination and her characteristic grace. As manager of the Blatt Building that houses the offices of South Carolina’s House members, she served hundreds of legislators and supervised scores of staff members while overseeing the building’s daily operations; and

Whereas, Ann’s extraordinary ability to ensure the normal and quiet functioning of the Blatt Building during the tumult of session was held in very high esteem by several generations of House members, many of whom, upon returning for a visit, sought her out as someone who had made their service as legislators easier; and

Whereas, as a hard worker who took a genuine interest in the people she served, Ann Martin would not let an issue go unresolved and worked persistently until it was brought to the best possible conclusion. Away from the office, she has always displayed the same caring attitude. Ann quietly visits friends with health challenges to do their laundry, drive them to doctor appointments, or assist them in running errands; and

Whereas, to recognize Ann Martin for her many years of service to the House of Representatives, her colleagues hosted a retirement celebration in her honor on November 15, 2013, at which time she was presented with the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian tribute awarded by the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, during Ann’s retirement, the House hopes she will find herself more frequently able to indulge in spending time with her grandchildren and great‑grandchildren (who relish their “Granny Ann”) and in traveling, especially on trips to Colorado to see her grandson and jaunts to Seneca to visit her great‑grands; and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is pleased to wish their beloved “Miss Ann” well as she enjoys retirement and trusts she will find much pleasure in the more leisurely pace of the days ahead. All who had the privilege of knowing her will miss her greatly and long will remember her for her good nature and sense of humor and also for her exemplary service to the people of South Carolina. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor Ann B. Martin of Camden for her many years of outstanding service as Solomon Blatt Building manager/chief receptionist for the South Carolina House of Representatives, congratulate her on 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 Ann B. Martin.

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