**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR TANYA A. GEE OF RICHLAND COUNTY FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL AND OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION, FOR THE PROFOUNDLY POSITIVE IMPACT SHE MAKES ON HER COMMUNITY, AND TO WISH HER SWIFT AND COMPLETE VICTORY IN HER COURAGEOUS QUEST TO OVERCOME CANCER.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate are pleased to pause in their deliberations to express their appreciation for the exceptional public service, legal career, and profoundly positive community impact of Tanya Amber Gee; and

Whereas, an attorney for Nexsen Pruett focusing on appellate law and business litigation, Tanya Gee earned an bachelor’s degree in sociology, *magna cum laude*, from Winthrop University in 1999 and a law degree, *cum laude*, from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 2002; and

Whereas, in college, she passionately sought to learn how to use the law as a tool to improve the circumstances of those in need by serving in the York County Public Defender’s Office and volunteering at Tuesday’s Child, an after‑school tutoring center for homeless and at‑risk children; and

Whereas, with the help of two scholarships, Tanya was able to realize her dream of attending law school, where she excelled to become a member of the Order of Wig and Robe, the associate Student Works editor for the *South Carolina Law Review*, the president of the University of South Carolina Law *Pro Bono* Board, and the president of the Public Interest Law Society; and

Whereas, following law school, she embarked on her legal career as law clerk to the Honorable Kaye G. Hearn, Chief Judge of the South Carolina Court of Appeals, who became her mentor and friend. Tanya quickly became known at the court for her steadfast loyalty and dependability, earnest compassion, brilliant legal skills, and unmatched leadership talents, which led to her elevation from law clerk to chief staff attorney and, ultimately, clerk of court, where she masterfully orchestrated the operations of the state’s intermediate appellate court of nine active judges, one retired judge, and their staff, the central staff attorneys’ office, the docketing office, and all support personnel; and

Whereas, a popular lecturer on South Carolina legal trends, Tanya Gee has twice presented the annual civil law update to the judiciary of this state and their law clerks at the annual South Carolina Judicial Conference. She is the author of an appellate guidebook for self‑represented litigants and a member of the “S.C. Access to Justice Commission,” she organized the “Where There’s a Will” project to prepare wills for the indigent, she supports Young Lawyer Legacy of the S.C. Bar Foundation, and she chairs the Kids’ ID Project; and

Whereas, one of only two attorneys ever awarded both the Bronze and Silver Compleat Lawyer Awards from the University of South Carolina Law School Alumni Association, she was also named to *The State* newspaper’s “20 Under 40” class in 2010. The prestigious Liberty Fellowship, an incubator for exemplary leadership in South Carolina, named Tanya as a fellow for its Class of 2012; and

Whereas, Tanya regularly contributes to the blogspot, *Noticing Appeals: Abusing our discretion one post at a time*, about issues including the South Carolina Court of Appeals and Supreme Court, South Carolina legal issues, oral advocacy, and legal writing; and

Whereas, she and her beloved husband, Chris Koon, both recognized as business and community leaders, are by example and conscientious instruction rearing two delightful children, Will and Sabin, to be thoughtful, helpful, kind, and happy; and

Whereas, early in life Tanya learned that she could work hard to achieve dreams that were worthwhile and that she could accept certain things as beyond her control. Now armed with the same positive spirit, boundless optimism, and cheerful humor that has sustained her as she surmounted previous challenges in life, she is waging an inspiring and determined battle against an extremely rare form of cancer, bolstered by an amazing outpouring of support and care from a broad support network of loved ones; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Senate is grateful for the dedication that Tanya Gee has brought to the legal profession in South Carolina and the compassion she has extended to so many in her community, and the members hope to hear of her steadily improving health in the near future. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Tanya A. Gee of Richland County for her exceptional and outstanding contributions to the state and the legal profession, for the profoundly positive impact she makes on her community, and to wish her swift and complete victory in her courageous quest to overcome cancer.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Tanya A. Gee.

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