**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE LAURIE JOHNSTON OF CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HER FOR HER THIRTY‑ONE YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR, AND TO WISH HER MUCH HAPPINESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, it is with great pleasure that the South Carolina House of Representatives honors those individuals who give tirelessly of themselves to the welfare of this great state’s most important legacy, its children; and

Whereas, Charleston County School District’s Laurie Johnston, retiring after thirty‑one fruitful years as a classroom teacher, stands among their number as an outstanding public benefactor, one much admired in her role as an educator; and

Whereas, born and raised in Charleston, Laurie Johnston received her bachelor’s degree in elementary education from the College of Charleston and earned certification to teach early childhood education in 1984; and

Whereas, in August 1984, Mrs. Johnston began her teaching career at Charleston County School District’s Angel Oak Elementary School on Johns Island, where she has taught for thirty‑one years. During her career, she has educated, and shaped the lives of, hundreds of kindergarten students. In fact, she has taught the same grade in the same room (K‑2) at this same school. It’s clear she loves teaching kindergarten, especially teaching children to read; and

Whereas, long acknowledged as a master teacher, Laurie Johnston is respected as someone who insists on “not letting children slip through the cracks,” as one of her admirers puts it. This insistence is what makes her a truly great teacher; and

Whereas, on the home front, Laurie Johnston and her husband, who are residents of West Ashley, have one daughter, who lives and works in Charlotte, North Carolina; and

Whereas, during her well‑earned retirement, the House trusts Mrs. Johnston will find herself more frequently able to indulge in those leisure‑time activities that teachers so often have to put aside until the summer; and

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

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Laurie Johnston of Charleston County School District upon the occasion of her retirement, commend her for her thirty‑one years of dedicated service as an educator, and wish her much happiness and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Laurie Johnston.

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