**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE DRU MCPHERSON NIX OF GILBERT UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO COMMEND HER FOR THIRTY‑FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR AND ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR, 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, Gilbert’s Dru McPherson Nix, retiring after thirty‑five fruitful years as a classroom teacher, coach, and administrator, stands among their number as an outstanding public benefactor, one much admired in her role as both educator and community leader; and

Whereas, young Dru received her early teacher training at the University of South Carolina‑‑Aiken (USC Aiken), finishing with a degree in physical education. Having shown her athletic prowess early, she continued earning plaudits in college, where she received the Most Valuable Player award for both volleyball and basketball. Further preparation for her calling led her to a master’s degree in educational administration; and

Whereas, in 1981, an eager first‑year teacher, this Aiken native began her work as an educator with an assignment at USC Aiken coaching volleyball and women’s basketball. In 1983, she began her duties at Silver Bluff High School, where she served as a physical education, math, and physical science teacher. There, she coached volleyball, basketball, softball, and boys’ golf and served as athletic director. Over the years, her excellence as a coach brought her Coach of the Year honors multiple times in multiple sports, as well as a Teacher of the Year designation; and

Whereas, in 1995, Dru made the move to the South Carolina High School League (SCHSL), where she worked her way up to her present position as associate commissioner. She will conclude a successful career when she retires from this post in June 2016; and

Whereas, since her move to the SCHSL, career honors have continued to accrue for Dru Nix. She is the only South Carolina female recipient of the prestigious National Federation of High Schools Citation Award and is a USC Aiken Athletic Hall of Fame inductee. Further, the SCHSL North/South Girls’ Golf All‑Stars compete for the Dru Nix Cup award, named in her honor; and

Whereas, because of her commitment to her community, Dru Nix serves that community in several capacities. She is an honorary lifetime Kiwanis Club member and an active member of Gilbert United Methodist Church. She formerly served the Town of Gilbert as liaison to the Lexington County Sheriff’s Department Community Task Force. On the home front, Dru Nix and her husband, John, have two fine sons, Joseph and Philip; and

Whereas, during Dru’s well‑earned retirement, the House trusts she will find herself more frequently able to enjoy the hunting, fishing, boating, and golfing she relishes, as well as frequent trips to Edisto Beach, where she most often may be found with her feet in a creek. In addition, Alaska, Wisconsin, Oregon, and New Mexico, the only four states she hasn’t visited, are on her travel bucket list; and

Whereas, having set the bar of achievement high in her profession, Dru Nix 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 Dru McPherson Nix of Gilbert upon the occasion of her retirement, commend her for thirty‑five years of dedicated service as an educator and athletic administrator, and wish her much happiness and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Dru McPherson Nix.

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