**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARVA SMALLS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, AND CHIEF OF STAFF OF NICKELODEON, AND TO COMMEND HER EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY.

Whereas, in her executive role at Nickelodeon, Marva Smalls directs the number one children’s entertainment brand, TV Land, the highest‑rated cable network to launch within the past five years, and TNN, which has been newly repositioned as The National Network; and

Whereas, Ms. Smalls earned a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in public administration, both from the University of South Carolina, and she is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; and

Whereas, prior to joining Nickelodeon in 1993, she enjoyed a career in the public sector, serving as staff director of South Carolina’s Private Industry Council for Governor Richard Riley and later as chief of staff for Congressman Robin Tallon for ten years. She has a long history of political activism and public service in South Carolina and has served across the United States in a variety of positions in government on state and national levels and in the NAACP; and

Whereas, a faithful member of Trinity Baptist Church in Florence, Ms. Smalls oversees Nickelodeon’s pro‑social and corporate responsibility initiatives and the company’s relationships with child advocates, government officials, educators, and nonprofit organizations in her public affairs’ role; and

Whereas, she spearheads the award‑winning The Big Help, Nickelodeon’s national campaign that in eight years has encouraged and empowered kids to pledge more than one hundred million hours of volunteer service to their communities; and

Whereas, as Chief of Staff, Ms. Smalls is the chief administrative officer for all three networks; Nickelodeon, TV Land, and TNN, as well as their ancillary businesses, coordinating and directing financial resources, personnel, and facilities for their New York, Los Angeles, Orlando, and international offices; and

Whereas, she manages and oversees meetings of the company’s executive team, a strategic planning group comprising the senior executives in charge of each network and line of business; and

Whereas, for her outstanding work, Ms. Smalls has been honored with the prestigious George C. Peabody and Golden CableAce awards; and

Whereas, The Big Help’s grassroots efforts have given more than forty million young people the tools and motivation to connect to their communities and make a difference in their world. The campaign has been recognized for its achievements by both the Clinton and Bush administrations and has garnered the support of the top names in the entertainment industry, from Mariah Carey and Whoopi Goldberg to Britney Spears; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Marva Smalls, The Big Help has become universally recognized among children in the United States and continues to grow in Nickelodeon’s international markets; and

Whereas, she is an active member of the Executive Leadership Council, an organization representing the top African Americans in corporate America; and

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to honor this daughter of the Palmetto State for her significant influence within the entertainment industry and for her lasting impact on her community. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, recognize and honor Marva Smalls, Executive Vice President, Public Affairs, and Chief of Staff of Nickelodeon, and commend her exceptional contributions to the entertainment industry.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Marva Smalls.

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