**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR PENNIE PERALTA, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AND SYSTEM CHIEF NURSING OFFICER AT ROPER ST. FRANCIS HEALTHCARE, UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, TO THANK HER FOR HER DEDICATED SERVICE OF FORTY‑THREE YEARS, AND TO WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS AND FULFILLMENT IN ALL HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Whereas, on March 19, 2021, after forty‑three years of committed service, Pennie Peralta began a well‑deserved retirement from her role as vice president and system chief nursing officer at Roper St. Francis Healthcare (RSFH); and

Whereas, Ms. Peralta began her career with St. Francis Hospital as a registered nurse on the cardiac step‑down unit in 1978, the week she graduated from Clemson University. Her steadfast loyalty to both the healthcare system and her alma mater, particularly its football team, is one of her defining characteristics; and

Whereas, over the course of her service, this beloved leader mentored nurses, championed patients, improved quality, and guided RSFH through its most significant growth; and

Whereas, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Anthony Jackson offered this tribute to Ms. Peralta: “In so many ways, Pennie is the living personification of Roper St. Francis Healthcare’s goodness and service to patients. She exudes gentleness, yet confidence, and intelligence, yet compassion. Her transformational and visionary leadership has become the standard for leaders at RSFH”; and

Whereas, one of the most significant accomplishments of her long and distinguished career was leading Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital (BSSF) in 2010 to its first Magnet designation, a national recognition that serves as the gold standard for nursing practice. She helped BSSF earn Magnet designation twice more, a feat no other hospital in South Carolina has achieved; and

Whereas, she also assisted with the design, construction, and eventual move of St. Francis Hospital to its new West Ashley campus in 1996. After the 1998 merger of St. Francis Hospital and Roper Hospital, Ms. Peralta continued her leadership role in nursing, with responsibilities on both hospital campuses; and

Whereas, moreover, she held numerous leadership positions in local and statewide groups, including the Charleston Organization of Nurse Leaders, South Carolina Organization of Nurse Leaders, Palmetto Gold Steering Committee, and South Carolina Hospital Association. At the regional and state levels, her efforts focused on improving the work environment for nursing, increasing the supply of nurses, addressing nursing faculty shortages, and promoting recognition for exceptional nursing practice; and

Whereas, in 2020, in appreciation for her outstanding service, Pennie Peralta received the first DAISY Nurse Leader Award presented by BSSF. This international honor spotlights those who create an environment of compassion and recognition for others and who are considered models of outstanding nurse leadership; and

Whereas, grateful for the legacy of committed excellence Pennie Peralta has bestowed on this great State, the House takes great pleasure in wishing her well as she transitions from her duties at Roper St. Francis Healthcare to retirement. The members trust she will find much enjoyment in the more relaxed pace of the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate and honor Pennie Peralta, former vice president and system chief nursing officer at Roper St. Francis Healthcare, upon the occasion of her retirement, thank her for her dedicated service of forty‑three years, and wish her continued success and fulfillment in all her future endeavors.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Pennie Peralta.

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