

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 118

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Etta Jane Harris for more than forty-four years of exceptional public service upon the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, Etta Jane Harris began her distinguished career in state government in 1979, at the age of nineteen, embarking upon more than forty-four years of dedicated public service; and

WHEREAS, throughout her remarkable tenure, Ms. Harris has been a steadfast advocate for single-family housing, access to public services, children in the child welfare system, individuals with disabilities, and people who are hungry and in need; and

WHEREAS, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and a Master of Public Administration, with a concentration in budget and finance, from Southern University and A&M College; and

WHEREAS, she has served with distinction as a state budget manager for the commissioner of administration under several administrations, providing expertise across numerous policy areas, including education, juvenile justice, special schools, social services, and coordinated system care; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Harris' exceptional leadership led to her appointment as deputy undersecretary of the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services, where she often presented information to, or testified before, legislators, members of the judiciary, advocacy organizations, and professional audiences; and

WHEREAS, she was appointed to serve as a member on several significant bodies, including the Education Estimating Conference Committee, the Children's Cabinet, and the Juvenile Justice Committee, further demonstrating her trusted expertise and meaningful influence in state governance; and

WHEREAS, widely respected by colleagues and peers, Ms. Harris is known not only for her professional accomplishments but also for her mentorship, impeccable style, commanding presence, and ability to uplift those around her; and

WHEREAS, her warmth, humor, kindness, energy, and gracious spirit have enriched the lives of all who have had the privilege of working with her; and

WHEREAS, as she transitions into a well-earned retirement, she looks forward to traveling, maintaining her passion for fitness, pursuing activities such as running, biking, and swimming, and spending time with friends and family, including her two beloved sons.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Etta Jane Harris for her more than forty-four years of exemplary public service and does hereby extend best wishes for a fulfilling and joyful retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Etta Jane Harris.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE