

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 179

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Carla Hayden on her service as the fourteenth Librarian of Congress.

WHEREAS, Carla Hayden is an American librarian who made history in 2016 as the first woman and first African American to be named the Librarian of Congress, and she held this position until 2025; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayden is known for her efforts to ensure widespread access to public libraries and their resources; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayden earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois, in 1973; she continued her education at the University of Chicago Graduate Library School, where she earned a master's degree in 1977 and a doctorate in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayden began her professional career in 1973, serving as a children's librarian in the Chicago Public Library system, and she maintained other positions within the system through 1982; she then served for five years as the library services coordinator for Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayden served as an assistant professor at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Pittsburgh from 1987 to 1991 and taught courses that focused on children's literature and library resources; she returned to Chicago in 1991 and was appointed deputy commissioner and chief librarian of the Chicago Public Library system, where she served until 1993; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the Chicago Public Library, Ms. Hayden took on the leading role at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the library system for Baltimore, Maryland; she advanced the system into the digital age and expanded its digital resources by increasing the number of computers available to the public and opening an after-school center for teens; she also oversaw the opening of the system's first new branch in more than three decades; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hayden served as the president of the American Library Association in 2003 and 2004; in February 2016, President Barack Obama nominated her for the position of Librarian of Congress, and she was confirmed, making her the fourteenth Librarian of Congress since the library was established in 1800 and the first professional librarian to hold the position since 1974; and

WHEREAS, Carla Hayden merits a special measure of commendation for her term of service as the Librarian of Congress.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Carla Hayden on her service as the fourteenth Librarian of Congress and does hereby extend appreciation for her service to her community and nation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES