

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 198

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ADLEY, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Linda Willey Muffoletto for her exemplary public service to the Legislature of Louisiana, in particular, the Louisiana Senate where she served so faithfully for over four decades, and to extend to her a hearty congratulations upon a richly deserved retirement.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the Senate recognizes and honors Linda Muffoletto as one of its finest and longest serving employees; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Senate Calendar Clerk, Linda performed her clerical duties and orchestrated desk operations with seamless proficiency, always exhibiting excellent organizational skills and attention to detail; and

WHEREAS, hired in 1974 by Senate Secretary C. W. Roberts, Linda began her employment by training alongside Barbara Howard; it was a time of "pencil and paper" recordkeeping, long before the speed and automation of digital technology found in today's chamber; and

WHEREAS, during that time, Linda also coordinated the letting of legislative contracts for printed materials through Emprint Moran Printing and she handled the timely receipt, delivery, and distribution of legislative instruments, journals, and other printed matter, all with meticulous accounting of transactions; and

WHEREAS, Linda has always garnered the admiration of her peers for her excellent work product, her enthusiasm, her warmth of spirit, and friendly demeanor; she has demonstrated a steady hand and quiet aplomb while coordinating the interaction between proposed legislation and journal copy; and

WHEREAS, Linda applied her talents during the administrations of nine presiding officers of the Senate, which include Lieutenant Governor James Fitzmorris, Michael O'Keefe, Sammy Nunez, Allen Bares, Randy Ewing, John Hainkel, Don Hines, Joel Chaisson, and John Alario, and three Senate Secretaries, which include C. W. Roberts, Michael Baer, and Glenn Koepp; and

WHEREAS, during these forty years of service, Linda has been "on the desk" for forty-one regular legislative sessions and thirty-nine extraordinary sessions and has near perfect attendance with the exception of a one-day absence due to an eye ailment; and

WHEREAS, Linda has quite an industrious work ethic as evidenced by the fact that legislative sessions are just an accompaniment to her regular full-time employment at Southern Media and Opinion Research; and

WHEREAS, Linda has leisure interests that include stamp collecting, known as philately, and in earlier years she was an active member of the Civil Air Patrol, the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force; her interest in aviation was sparked by her father who was in the English Royal Air Force; she attained the rank of commander and has won national awards for her service; and

WHEREAS, Linda Willey was born in Pontiac, Michigan, to parents, Eric and Sylvia Willey, both natives of Great Britain; her family moved to New Orleans where she attended public school, graduating in 1967 from John F. Kennedy High School in its first senior class; and

WHEREAS, she was an exceptionally gifted student who matriculated to Louisiana State University where she met and later married the love of her life, Joseph Muffoletto; and

WHEREAS, Linda has always put her family first with her husband of forty-five years, Joseph, and their two sons, Joseph Vincent II (J. J.) and wife Jamie and their daughter Marie, and Richard (Richie) and his wife, Michelle; and

WHEREAS, she has had a positive affect on the efficiency and effectiveness of the legislative process with her "can do" attitude, her critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and her commitment of over forty years with the Senate exemplifies all of the extraordinary qualities of an exceptional public servant; and

WHEREAS, in retirement Linda has many memories to recall from the past four

decades, such as colorful legislators with controversial issues, the camaraderie shared with her colleagues on the desk, or the times when her young children sat at the rail dressed in their pajamas and slippers waiting patiently for Mommy to wrap up the "legislative day" in the chamber; and

WHEREAS, while we, both senators and staff members alike, wish for Linda the very best life has to offer and with her move onto new adventures in Bainbridge Island, Washington, we also wish that she recall the fondness we expressed for her, how well she will be remembered, and how much she will be missed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Linda Muffoletto for forty years of outstanding public service, dedication, and loyalty to this legislative body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby offer its heartfelt congratulations to Linda upon the occasion of her retirement and extends to her its best wishes for good health and happiness in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted with great appreciation and affection to Linda W. Muffoletto.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE