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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4

Offered January 17, 2012

Commending Gwendolyn F. Bailey.

Patrons—Colgan, Barker, Black, Blevins, Carrico, Deeds, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Garrett, Hanger, Herring, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Marsh, Martin, McDougle, McEachin, McWaters, Miller, J.C., Miller, Y.B., Newman, Norment, Northam, Obenshain, Petersen, Puckett, Puller, Reeves, Ruff, Saslaw, Smith, Stanley, Stosch, Stuart, Vogel, Wagner and Watkins

WHEREAS, Gwendolyn F. Bailey retired from the Senate Clerk's Office on January 1, 2012, after 29 years of meritorious service to the Senate and the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Bailey's interest in and commitment to public service led her to the hall of Virginia's Capitol, where in 1983 she joined the Senate Clerk's Office as a session secretary assigned to the Honorable L. Douglas Wilder and the Honorable Clive L. DuVal, 2d; and

WHEREAS, with her keen perceptiveness, resolve, and meticulous execution, Gwen Bailey was able to manage any project gracefully while making the work look effortless; and

WHEREAS, while serving as assistant clerk and later as deputy clerk, Gwen Bailey ably oversaw the hiring and training of the administrative assistants and effectively managed the LINC'S team in the Senate Clerk's Office, whose mission is to foster interest in the legislative process by providing access to education, information, and research; and

WHEREAS, as the administrator of the page and messenger program, Gwen Bailey had both the privilege and enormous responsibility of welcoming and guiding hundreds of pages and messengers at the Virginia Capitol, where she instructed them on the protocols and traditions of the Virginia Senate and challenged them to always give their best; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Bailey also played a vital role in coordinating and enhancing the Virginia Girls State program, designed to educate rising high school senior girls about representative democracy and to spark a lifelong interest in public service; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Bailey, a native of South Carolina, made the Commonwealth her adopted home and served as its able ambassador to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCLS), where she took an active role in the LINC'S staff section, coordinating the America's Legislators Back to School program in Virginia and rising to the position of staff section chair in 2009-2010; and

WHEREAS, equally active in the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries (ASLCS), Gwen Bailey was appointed as a member of the 1999-2000 ASLCS Executive Committee for her lifetime dedication to supporting and strengthening the legislative process; she received the society's coveted Legislative Staff Achievement Award in 2003; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Senate and the Clerk's staff will miss their adopted daughter of the Commonwealth, who touched the lives of countless young Virginians over the years, empowering and inspiring them to become actively engaged citizens and future leaders in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Gwen Bailey plans to return to her native South Carolina with her husband, James, to enjoy her retirement among family and friends while exercising her green thumb and penchant for home improvement projects in beautifying their home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Gwendolyn F. Bailey be commended for her exemplary and faithful service to the Senate of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gwendolyn F. Bailey as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's heartfelt appreciation for her exceptional public service in providing the youth of the Commonwealth with a supportive and educational environment to foster civic learning and engagement.

INTRODUCED

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