

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1827

A RESOLUTION honoring Legislative Reference Director Rita Haley upon her retirement from employment with the State of Kansas and her relocation to a new home and new ventures in our neighboring state of Colorado.

WHEREAS, Rita Haley has been a treasured asset on the staff of the Kansas State Library, where she began as a secretary for the State Librarian and has been promoted over and over until being appointed to the position of Director of the Legislative Reference Section in 1978; and

WHEREAS, For the past 37 years, legislators, lobbyists, staff and members of the public have found themselves saying, “Go ask Rita” when a pressing question needed a fast, accurate response; and

WHEREAS, Rita Haley has come to epitomize passionate dedication to doing a job quickly, accurately and with cheer, setting a high bar for others who serve the legislature and the public; and

WHEREAS, Her creation and implementation of the legislative hotline made lawmakers and the lawmaking process accessible to all Kansans in a real and immediate way, in yet another example of Rita Haley’s belief in the process and the need for all people to participate in the process; and

WHEREAS, After all these years and the thousands of people who have come to her seeking help and information, Rita can still say with a smile that her favorite part of the job has been the people—all the people—she got to meet and work with. While she says she will miss all those people, it is certain all of them will miss Rita, the diminutive dynamo. Her kind, efficient, energetic and enthusiastic approach to providing information belie the rigors of her job and the hours she spent making sure she was ready for each day. (Hours, Rita says, she will NOT miss!); and

WHEREAS, Rita Haley’s last day in the Capitol will be March 11, 2005, and she and her husband Bob will be moving to Colorado where she will relax for awhile and take the time to review her options while enjoying the sights and activities of the Denver area: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That the members of this chamber are grateful to Rita Haley for her outstanding service to this body, to the legislature and to all Kansans through her tireless efforts as Director of Legislative Reference Services of the Kansas State Library; that we wish her the very best in the years to come; that we will always welcome her with open arms and appreciative hearts as a visitor to this beautiful building; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Rita Haley as a token of our enduring esteem and affection.

Senate Resolution No. 1827 was sponsored by Senators Morris, Allen, Apple, Barnett, Barone, Betts, Brownlee, Bruce, Brungardt, Donovan, Emler, Francisco, Gilstrap, Goodwin, Haley, Hensley, Huelskamp, Jordan, Journey, Kelly, Lee, McGinn, O’Connor, Ostmeyer, Palmer, Petersen, Pine, Pyle, Reitz, D. Schmidt, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger, Vratil, Wagle, Wilson and Wysong.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*