

1 A RESOLUTION honoring Joyce Honaker upon winning the 2018 Vic Hellard Jr.
2 Award for exemplary public service.

3 WHEREAS, Joyce Honaker served the Legislative Research Commission from
4 1971 until her retirement in May 2003. As Committee Staff Administrator of the State
5 Government Committee, she managed one of the largest and busiest committee staffs in
6 the agency. She understood the critical role of staff in the legislative process, and had a
7 profound belief in how members of the General Assembly rely on staff to oversee the
8 complexities of that process; and

9 WHEREAS, Joyce Honaker was deeply involved in the General Assembly's
10 fulfillment of its redistricting responsibilities. Joyce diligently worked to modernize this
11 task through at least three U.S. Census cycles, and during the legislature's 1981, 1991,
12 and 2001 redistricting efforts, she led a large team of analysts, map drawers, secretaries,
13 and others who helped the legislature draw boundaries for legislative and congressional
14 districts. The effort after the 1990 Census was particularly complex, as it involved the
15 first computer mapping and GIS technology; and

16 WHEREAS, Joyce Honaker was one of the founding members of the Research and
17 Committee Staff Section (RACSS) of NCSL in 1987, and served as its first chair in 1987
18 and 1988. Under her leadership, RACSS began a concerted effort to broaden its scope
19 and expand professional development opportunities. In 1997, RACSS presented Joyce
20 with one of two inaugural Legislative Staff Achievement Awards; and

21 WHEREAS, for more than three decades, Joyce Honaker served the Legislative
22 Research Commission with her trademark professionalism, dedication, and leadership.
23 Respected by everyone who met her in the hallways of the Capitol—from legislators to
24 fellow staff to those employees who served under her on the State Government
25 Committee—she truly represented the best the agency had to offer; and

26 WHEREAS, the Vic Hellard Jr. Award was created in 1997 to recognize
27 outstanding public service in the spirit he brought to it: good humor, compassion, vision,

1 and a reverence for history; and

2 WHEREAS, Vic Hellard Jr.'s belief in the innate goodness of the people of this
3 Commonwealth was expressed through his core conviction that public service is a
4 citizen's highest civic calling, and it is the continuing mission of the Legislative Research
5 Commission to promote sound relationships between constituents and legislators,
6 between Kentuckians and their Capitol, and between each and every member of this staff;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Joyce Honaker's contributions to strengthening the LRC staff and
9 enhancing public trust in the legislative branch of government have resonated long after
10 her retirement, and still serve as symbolic reminders of the Legislative Research
11 Commission's overall mission; and

12 WHEREAS, this body rightfully honors Joyce Honaker on this day upon being the
13 recipient of the 2018 Vic Hellard Jr. Award for outstanding public service, thanks her for
14 her years of service to the Legislative Research Commission, and acknowledges her
15 profound contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
18 ***Kentucky:***

19 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby thanks Joyce Honaker for her many years of
20 service to the Legislative Research Commission and the people of this Commonwealth,
21 and holds her in high esteem for her many contributions to civic life in Kentucky.

22 ➔Section 2. The Senate commends Joyce Honaker upon being the recipient of the
23 2018 Vic Hellard Jr. Award.

24 ➔Section 3. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Joyce
25 Honaker.

26 ➔Section 4. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
27 Resolution to Senator Robert Stivers II.