State of Tennessee

THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8

By Representative Clemmons

and

Senators Campbell, Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mary Skinner on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Mary Skinner is one such estimable person who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, after more than fourteen years of service as Community and Media Relations Manager at the Tennessee State Museum, Ms. Skinner is taking a much-deserved retirement on October 29, 2021; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Auburn University in Alabama with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design and Advertising, Mary Skinner moved to Nashville and worked as an art director before establishing her own marketing firm; and

WHEREAS, one of her first clients was the Tennessee State Museum; after selling her business to a larger advertising agency, she joined the museum staff in 2007 to set up an internal marketing department; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Skinner has led the museum's public relations, marketing, and advertising efforts through major exhibitions and growth, including the 2010 exhibition *We Shall Not Be Moved: The 50th Anniversary of Tennessee's Civil Rights Sit-Ins*; the 2013 exhibition of one of the original signed copies of the Emancipation Proclamation; and the groundbreaking 2014 exhibition *Slaves and Slaveholders of Wessyngton Plantation*, which won a national American Association for State and Local History award; and

WHEREAS, she and her team have shared many additional awards with the museum, including dozens of Award of Excellence honors from the Tennessee Association of Museums (TAM); and

WHEREAS, Ms. Skinner was also a major part of the communications team that opened the new Tennessee State Museum on Rosa L. Parks Boulevard, from its groundbreaking in 2016 to grand opening in 2018; and

WHEREAS, an active and important part of her profession, Mary Skinner has served on the board of directors of TAM and represented the museum as a member of numerous committees and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, wholly dedicated to serving the needs of her community, Ms. Skinner has established a student scholarship fund with the Tennessee Association of Museums to encourage younger generations to consider a career in museums, which hire historians, artists, art handlers, conservators, writers, graphic designers, exhibit designers, and more to protect our treasures and the stories that define them; and

WHEREAS, Mary Skinner exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. Skinner has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and the citizens she has so ably served; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Mary Skinner our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, offering our deepest gratitude for her distinguished service with the Tennessee State Museum and wishing her every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.

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ADOPTED: October 29, 2021

CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 10th day of November 2021

BILL LEE, GOVERNOR