

## HJR6 INTRODUCED



1 HJR6  
2 MDQ31HW-1  
3 By Representative Mooney  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25



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HJR\_\_\_ COMMENDING MARY SANDERS WARD FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE ALABAMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, it is with profound gratitude that the Alabama House of Representatives and its staff congratulate Mary Sanders Ward after 63 years of devoted service to the Legislature and the people of this great state; and

WHEREAS, a native of Tallassee, Alabama, Mary began her many years of public service on June 7, 1961, with the Alabama Highway Department; thereafter, she served in various capacities with the Alabama Public Service Commission and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, she began her career with the Legislature when she was appointed to work in the House of Representatives by Speaker Jimmy Clark on March 31, 1987; she transitioned to working as a Front Desk Supervisor in 1994 and was promoted to Supervisor of the House Journal Room on October 1, 1997; and

WHEREAS, since becoming supervisor of the House Journal Room, she has been responsible for ensuring that the Journal of the House is an accurate account of the actions taken on the floor each session; she has served an astounding 82 legislative sessions; and

WHEREAS, the Journal of the House is the sole legally



## HJR6 INTRODUCED

29 recognized document that can be used in a court of law  
30 whenever there are questions regarding actions taken on the  
31 floor of the House; it is of vital importance that it be  
32 assembled and published without error; she would work day  
33 and night and on weekends to ensure that every task related  
34 to the production of the Journal was completed to  
35 perfection; and

36 WHEREAS, capitalizing on her industriousness and her  
37 unfailing work ethic, Mary played an important role in  
38 developing the early computer systems and worked with  
39 developers tirelessly on the ALIS system which was used by  
40 the Legislature for over 25 years; most notably, her ability  
41 to quickly and expertly create macros enhanced employee's  
42 ability to perform their jobs more effectively; her computer  
43 savviness continued to serve her well as she spearheaded  
44 efforts to develop and implement LINX, the new legislative  
45 computer system; and

46 WHEREAS, she has had a front-row seat to many  
47 historical moments in the Alabama House Chamber; her  
48 expertise, legislative procedural knowledge, and rapport  
49 with the members of the House of Representatives has served  
50 as a catalyst for her successful career and positive impact  
51 on the legislative process; she immensely enjoyed assisting  
52 others with problems and tasks, and she was truly at her  
53 best when she was helping others; and

54 WHEREAS, a loving dog owner, she has engaged in  
55 numerous humanitarian efforts to improve the lives of pets  
56 in the Montgomery area; most recently, she daringly rescued



## HJR6 INTRODUCED

57 a kitten from the car engine of a colleague in the State  
58 House parking lot; a coffee connoisseur and purveyor of  
59 unique foods and beverages, Mary was always willing to share  
60 with her colleagues; to the surprise of many, Mary continues  
61 to love mastering video games, such as Legend of Zelda;  
62 demonstrating an unrivaled green thumb, she also capitalizes  
63 on every moment to work with plants and flowers in her yard;  
64 and

65 WHEREAS, following her retirement, we know that she  
66 will continue to enjoy spending time with her pets; her  
67 daughter, Renee; her granddaughters, Gracie and Chloe, along  
68 with their husbands; and working in her yard; now therefore,

69 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
70 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Mary Sanders Ward be highly  
71 commended for her 63 years of service and dedication not  
72 only to this body and its members, but also to the people of  
73 the Great State of Alabama, and that we wish her a long and  
74 enjoyable retirement.