

HJR65 INTRODUCED



1 HJR65
2 UA1MXGX-1
3 By Representatives Clarke, Drummond, Bracy, Shirey, Pringle,
4 Brown, Wilcox, Hall, Jones
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 13-Feb-25



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HJR___ COMMENDING JO ANN JENKINS ON HER RETIREMENT AS THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
RETIRED PERSONS.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure,
highest commendations are conveyed to Jo Ann Jenkins for her
faithful and unwavering service as Chief Executive Officer
(CEO) of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP);
and

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2014, Jo Ann Jenkins, a
Mobile native, walked onstage at AARP's national member
event at the San Diego Convention Center to deliver her
first speech as CEO; and

WHEREAS, from that day on, Mrs. Jenkins has
revolutionized the way adults 50 years of age and older are
cared for; she challenged stereotypes and attitudes about
aging and sparked new solutions that help people live better
as they age; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jenkins has brought her fight to the
halls of Congress, the White House, and in state capitals
and communities across the country; her policies have
brought relief from the high cost of prescription drugs,
helped ease the burden of caregiving, opposed age
discrimination in the workplace, protected Social Security



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28 and Medicare, and made it easier for people to save for
29 retirement; and

30 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jenkins made it very clear that she
31 wanted to attack Alzheimer's and dementia and their effects
32 on the human mind; under her leadership, the AARP Brain
33 Health committed \$60 million to the Dementia Discovery Fund,
34 a venture capital fund that invests in dementia cures; AARP
35 also created the Global Council on Brain Health as an
36 independent organization to provide trusted information on
37 how to maintain and improve brain health; and

38 WHEREAS, recognizing the ever expanding world of
39 technology, Mrs. Jenkins wanted to ensure that senior
40 citizens were prepared and well-equipped; she chose to
41 integrate the Older Adults Technology Services into the AARP
42 family; this service provides a wide array of training
43 programs to help older adults protect their digital assets;
44 and

45 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic brought fear and
46 uncertainty to senior citizens; Mrs. Jenkins took it upon
47 herself to provide relevant, unbiased information to help
48 them navigate these uncharted waters, create solutions to
49 help older people stay connected with their families, and
50 speak out on issues ranging from stimulus checks to vaccines
51 to nursing home reforms; and

52 WHEREAS, in 2016, Mrs. Jenkins wrote her best-selling
53 book, Disrupt Aging; in addition to her book, her efforts
54 also included creating AARP Innovation Labs to help shape
55 the future of aging with new technology, and later the



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56 AgeTech Collaborative which has brought together more than
57 525 organizations to create products to benefit older
58 adults; in 2015, AARP established the Innovation Fund with a
59 commitment of \$40 million to invest in companies focused on
60 aging in place and access to health care; and

61 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jenkins not only tackled aging in her
62 country but also overseas; she has traveled to Europe, Asia,
63 and Africa to meet with government officials, confer with
64 leaders of aging organizations, and visit agencies serving
65 older adults to learn how they address aging and to share
66 what she has learned with AARP; and

67 WHEREAS, it is no surprise that Mrs. Jenkins was
68 named by Fortune as one of the "World's 50 Greatest
69 Leaders," and under her leadership, AARP was named by
70 Ethisphere as one of the world's most ethical companies; now
71 therefore,

72 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
73 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Jo Ann Jenkins is hereby
74 commended and recognized for her faithful and effective
75 service to the American Association of Retired Persons, and
76 with sincere appreciation for her dedication to helping
77 people, this resolution is offered with utmost appreciation
78 to her, along with best wishes for all future endeavors.