

1 SJR74
2 191665-1
3 By Senator Livingston
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 20-FEB-18

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8 RECOGNIZING BARBARA WATERS LARSON FOR OUTSTANDING
9 PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

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11 WHEREAS, Barbara Larson, who has served for more
12 than 28 years as the only Executive Director of Leadership
13 Alabama since the organization was founded in 1989, has
14 announced her retirement effective June 1, 2018; and

15 WHEREAS, under Ms. Larson's guidance, Leadership
16 Alabama has exposed citizen leaders to the challenges and
17 opportunities facing Alabama and provided the network
18 necessary to activate those citizens as they seek vital
19 solutions to the challenges that define the future of our
20 state; and

21 WHEREAS, as Executive Director of Leadership Alabama
22 for nearly three decades, Ms. Larson helped create a highly
23 respected statewide organization with more than 1,500
24 established leaders from all constituencies and walks of life
25 who count themselves as graduates of Leadership Alabama; and

26 WHEREAS, Ms. Larson is a Montgomery native who
27 graduated from Sidney Lanier High School, attended Sweet Briar

1 College and The University of Alabama, married and reared a
2 son and twin daughters, and returned to college to complete
3 her degree, earning a B. A. in English from Auburn University
4 at Montgomery in 1997; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Larson worked for several years with
6 Blount Incorporated in Montgomery before joining the Alabama
7 Shakespeare Festival after the theater relocated to Montgomery
8 in 1984; she served five years as development director and
9 established a significant statewide presence and strong
10 financial base for ASF; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Larson joined with other Leadership
12 Alabama graduates to launch Alabama Citizens for
13 Constitutional Reform (ACCR); she was a founding director of
14 the A+ Education Foundation and continues to serve on the
15 board and executive committee of the A+ Education Partnership;
16 she has also served on the board and the executive committee
17 of the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama (PARCA); and

18 WHEREAS, Ms. Larson's outstanding accomplishments
19 and service to the State of Alabama were recognized with her
20 induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor in 2011; and

21 WHEREAS, Barbara Larson's legacy is one of
22 professional achievement and public service; one of her most
23 notable accomplishments is the creation and direction of one
24 of our state's most significant nonprofit institutions,
25 Leadership Alabama; now therefore,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
27 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Barbara Waters Larson is

1 highly honored and commended, and this resolution is offered
2 to her in deepest admiration and appreciation for her service
3 to the State of Alabama, as well as with sincere best wishes
4 for continued success and happiness in her retirement.