

## **TENNESSEE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

A RESOLUTION to honor Senator Thelma Harper of Nashville, Tennessee, for meritorious service on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor members upon completion of their terms who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts have ensured proper attention to innumerable issues in fulfillment of the Commission's mission to serve as a forum for the discussion and resolution of intergovernmental problems, to provide high quality research support to state and local government officials in order to improve the overall quality of government in Tennessee, and to improve the effectiveness of the intergovernmental system to better serve the citizens of Tennessee;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Accounting from Tennessee State University;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper with her late husband Paul, raised two wonderful children, Linda and her late son Dylan;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper has served her community through service on many committees and boards, including serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Nashville Symphony, the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors, the Nashville Downtown Partnership Board, the Renewal House Advisory Board, the YWCA Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Children's Home, the Board of Managers of Northwest YMCA, the Third National Bank Economic Development Advisory Council, the SunTrust Bank Economic Development Advisory Council Club, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, NAACP, Links, Inc., the Nashville Women's Political Caucus, the Urban League of Middle Tennessee, and Achievement Matters, and as a former board member of the National Hook-Up of Black Women, and a former president of the National Hook-Up of Black Women, Nashville Chapter;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper has served her constituents with honor and distinction for many years in various capacities including as a member of the Metro Council of Nashville from 1983-1991 and as Grand Jury Foreman for Davidson County's 5th Circuit Court;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper has served her community as a member of the Senate from the 96<sup>th</sup> through 110<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper has been recognized for her leadership over the years, including among many other awards and acknowledgements, the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Metropolitan Minority Caucus, the 2017 NOBEL Women's President Award, the 2017 NOBEL Women's Legacy Award, the 2013 Living Legend Award from the Greater Nashville Alliance of Black School Educators, the 2013 Legacy of Service Award from the Center for Service Learning and Civic Engagement, the Jaycees' Woman of the Year Award, the 2009 Public Official of the Year award from the National Association of Social Workers, Tennessee Chapter, the Harriet Tubman Award from Youth About Business, the Political Legislature Award from the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, the 2003 Outstanding Contribution and Distinguished Service Award from Pearl-Cohn Comprehensive Business Magnet High School, and the 1992 Outstanding Leadership and Service Appreciation Award at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Business, Industry, Labor and Government Awards;

WHEREAS, Senator Harper has, in the course of her career as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly, served as chair of the Senate Government Operations Committee, vice chair of the Senate State and Local Government Committee, and as a member of the Senate Finance Ways and Means Committee, Senate Ethics Committee, Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate General Welfare, Health, and Human Resources Committee, the Senate Transportation and Safety Committee, Joint Government Operations Education, Health and General Welfare Subcommittee, Joint Government Operations Commerce, Labor, Transportation and Agriculture Subcommittee, Joint Veterans Affairs Committee, the Select Committee on Children and Youth, the Corrections Oversight Committee, Unsolved Civil Right Crimes Special Joint Committee, and Joint Pensions and Insurance Committee;

WHEREAS, in addition to these leadership roles, Senator Harper has served with distinction on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations helping provide leadership and direction to the Commission's staff; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TENNESSEE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS that we hereby honor and commend Senator Harper for her valuable contributions to the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and for her honorable and dedicated service to the good people of Davidson County and this great state.

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Mayor Larry Waters, Acting Chairman