

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7096

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION to recognize Debra G. Shults on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those individuals who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Debra G. Shults is one such estimable person, who, after more than forty-one years of devoted service to the State of Tennessee, will take her much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Health from East Tennessee State University, Debra Shults began her illustrious career with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Radiological Health in 1982, working as a health physicist inspector; and

WHEREAS, she rose through the ranks, becoming manager of the technical services section of the division and managing statewide programs for environmental monitoring, emergency response, waste management, and regulations development; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Ms. Shults became deputy director, and in 2010, she accepted the position of director; she also serves as the primary emergency services coordinator of the division; and

WHEREAS, a prominent leader in her profession, Debra Shults has served as commissioner for the Southeast Compact Commission for Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management since 1989; additionally, she has served as vice-chair and chair of the Southeast Compact Commission; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Shults served the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) Executive Board as treasurer from 2014 to 2017 and as secretary in 2018; she was also selected as a recipient of the 2020 OAS Hall of Fame Award; and

WHEREAS, Debra Shults championed the National Materials Program and promoted the concept that the Agreement States and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission should work as equal partners toward the same goal; and

WHEREAS, Debra Shults continues to serve as a role model, empowering young women and scientists across the nation; she is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Debra G. Shults our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and 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.