

SENATE RESOLUTION 1

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Melinda Sanders upon successfully completing the sale of Presbyterian Apartments, Inc.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Melinda Sanders; driven, enthusiastic, and willing to put others first, she devoted her time and abundant talents to ensure that the residents of Presbyterian Apartments would not suffer dramatic upheavals in their living arrangements; and

WHEREAS, when it became apparent that the not-for-profit senior citizens apartment complex, Presbyterian Apartments, d/b/a Park Manor Apartments, in Nashville could no longer sustain its property and business without a significant increase in rent, the Board of Directors decided to sell the property; and

WHEREAS, as Chairman of the Board, Melinda Sanders did an outstanding job in guiding the Board through all of the many phases of the complex transaction; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sanders was the lead person in securing both a real estate and public relations firm, and, perhaps most importantly, she was the contact person for the residents of Park Manor who were unsure of whether they would still have an apartment at the conclusion of the sale; and

WHEREAS, sensitive to the residents' concerns, Melinda Sanders delivered the news of the impending sale to the apartments' residents with compassion, keeping their emotions and feelings at the top of her priority list as she worked through the intricacies of the sale; and

WHEREAS, she also helped quell the anxieties and expectations of staff members, potential buyers, and neighborhood residents during the year-long process leading up to the challenging closing of the sale; and

WHEREAS, at the same time, Ms. Sanders was doing research on not-for-profit foundations, as the Board had voted to take the proceeds from the sale and reorganize as a charitable foundation; doing so required amending bylaws, bank accounts, and finding proper investment arrangements; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2008, the sale was successfully completed, and as a result, the charitable organization, The Kaharis Foundation, became a reality; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Sanders received her bachelor's degree from Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi, and her J.D. degree from Mississippi College School of Law in Jackson, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, having estimably served the State of Mississippi in the Department of Human Resources, she joined the law firm of Gordon, Silberman, Wiggins, and Childs in Birmingham, Alabama, where she specialized in employment discrimination and civil rights; and

WHEREAS, at Powell, Tally, and Fredrickson, also in Birmingham, Melinda Sanders continued to focus on workplace discrimination, and as owner of Sanders Management Services her abundant abilities are a key component of her entrepreneurial success; and

WHEREAS, Melinda Sanders 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 SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Melinda Sanders upon successfully completing the sale of Presbyterian Apartments, Inc., salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our warmest wishes for 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.