

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017

HCR 1011

4
5 By: Representatives Tosh, Wardlaw
6 By: Senator Elliott

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8 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 COMMENDING DR. MARY PARKER-REED AND HER COMMITMENT
10 AND SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 COMMENDING DR. MARY PARKER-REED AND HER
15 COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT
16 OF CORRECTION.

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20 WHEREAS, Dr. Mary L. Parker-Reed's doctoral thesis on the unique
21 odyssey of the once unconstitutional Department of Correction is considered
22 to be the definitive chronicle of legislative and agency reforms for the
23 State of Arkansas; and

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25 WHEREAS, Dr. Parker-Reed has been a member of the Department of
26 Criminal Justice Faculty at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock since
27 1984, earning a national reputation for her instruction, research, and
28 scholarly publications; and in 2011, her public service earned Dr. Parker-
29 Reed the Faculty Excellence Award from the UALR Foundation Fund Board; and

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31 WHEREAS, Dr. Parker-Reed was appointed by Governor Jim Guy Tucker to
32 the Correctional Resources Commission, which was created by the 1991 General
33 Assembly to reshape corrections in Arkansas; and as a result, Dr. Parker-Reed
34 authored the 1993 legislation that created the state's current adult
35 correctional configuration; and

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1 WHEREAS, legislation authored by Dr. Parker-Reed transferred parole
2 supervision from the Department of Correction and probation supervision from
3 circuit courts to a newly-created state agency, which is now known as the
4 Department of Community Correction; and

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6 WHEREAS, the groundbreaking legislation of 1993 introduced the concepts
7 of treatment-oriented community correction centers, day reporting centers,
8 and the use of a continuum of sanctions to hold parolees and probationers
9 accountable; and

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11 WHEREAS, Governor Tucker in 1993 appointed Dr. Parker-Reed to her first
12 seven-year term on the Board of Corrections; she was re-appointed in 2000 by
13 Governor Mike Huckabee and in 2007 by Governor Mike Beebe; and her 23 years,
14 7 months, and 14 days of continuous service makes Dr. Parker-Reed the
15 longest-serving member since the state correctional board was created in
16 1943; and

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18 WHEREAS, during her board tenure, Dr. Parker-Reed has served as Chair
19 and Vice Chair and legislative liaison for the Department of Correction and
20 the Department of Community Correction; and Dr. Parker-Reed has overseen the
21 addition of 5 prisons, 5 community correction centers, 1 technical parole
22 violator center, and numerous expansions and renovations of state facilities;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, under her leadership and guidance, both the Department of
26 Community Correction and the Department of Correction earned the Golden Eagle
27 Award from the American Correctional Association for achieving full national
28 accreditation of all state correctional facilities; and

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30 WHEREAS, through her involvement, Dr. Parker-Reed's commitment to
31 improving Arkansas's criminal justice system extends to the Arkansas Victim
32 Assistance Academy, the Safe Places Development Council, and the Arkansas
33 Police Corps; and

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35 WHEREAS, her compassion for animals led her to co-found Arkansas Paws
36 in Prison in 2011 that places overlooked shelter dogs into Arkansas prisons

1 where they are trained in basic obedience by inmates; the training makes the
2 dogs more adoptable; and this highly successful program has saved nearly
3 1,000 unwanted dogs from being euthanized and has provided marketable job
4 skills to the inmate trainers,

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6 NOW THEREFORE,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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10 THAT the General Assembly recognizes and commends Dr. Mary L. Parker-
11 Reed on her contributions to corrections, criminal justice reforms, and the
12 entire State of Arkansas, and thanks her for her public service.

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate
15 copy shall be provided to Dr. Parker-Reed by the Chief Clerk of the House of
16 Representatives.