

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2021-4632, by Representatives Jenkins, Wilcox, Abbarno, Barkis, Bateman, Berg, Bergquist, Berry, Boehnke, Bronoske, Caldier, Callan, Chambers, Chandler, Chapman, Chase, Chopp, Cody, Corry, Davis, Dent, Dolan, Duerr, Dufault, Dye, Entenman, Eslick, Fey, Fitzgibbon, Frame, Gilday, Goehner, Goodman, Graham, Gregerson, Griffey, Hackney, Hansen, Harris, Harris-Talley, Hoff, Jacobsen, J. Johnson, Kirby, Klicker, Klippert, Kloba, Kraft, Kretz, Leavitt, Lekanoff, Lovick, MacEwen, Macri, Maycumber, McCaslin, McEntire, Morgan, Mosbrucker, Orcutt, Ormsby, Ortiz-Self, Orwall, Paul, Peterson, Pollet, Ramel, Ramos, Riccelli, Robertson, Rude, Rule, Ryu, Santos, Schmick, Sells, Senn, Shewmake, Simmons, Slatter, Springer, Steele, Stokesbary, Stonier, Sullivan, Sutherland, Taylor, Thai, Tharinger, Valdez, Vick, Volz, Walen, Walsh, Wicks, Wylie, Ybarra, and Young

1       WHEREAS, Cathy Maynard has served as Speaker's Attorney for  
2 longer than anyone can remember; certainly no one remembers hiring  
3 her, but everyone agrees she is just part of the House of  
4 Representatives, much like the piano on the floor (but considerably  
5 more useful); and

6       WHEREAS, As best can be recreated, President Thomas Jefferson  
7 sent Lewis and Clark on their famous expedition in 1806 with specific  
8 instructions to "explore and discover a wondrous expanse wherein a  
9 future state can be formed and in which can be born a parliamentary  
10 legend and giant of process and policy for said state, and also be  
11 careful of bears"; and

12       WHEREAS, Historians debate the authenticity of this Jefferson  
13 quote, but it cannot be debated that Olympia was eventually made the  
14 capital of the great State of Washington, and that the first state  
15 legislature met in 1889; and

16       WHEREAS, After that first legislature met in 1889, they all  
17 agreed that they had no idea what they were really doing, so they  
18 decided to just wing it and hope for the best until someone could  
19 come and make sense of the hot mess that was their parliamentary  
20 process; and

21       WHEREAS, Pretty much nothing happened after that until an  
22 auspicious April 1st, commonly known as April Fool's Day, when Cathy  
23 Maynard was born, and her parents recall her first words as being "So

1 ordered," with her asking for things and then saying "So ordered,"  
2 and her parents would go to fetch them; and

3 WHEREAS, Cathy did some other stuff that doesn't really matter,  
4 because what matters is that she eventually started her true calling  
5 in the Legislature with That Other Body, serving as a legislative  
6 aide, counsel, and staff coordinator in the Senate from 1986-1989;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, In 1989, Cathy realized that her life was going nowhere,  
9 and she further realized that it wasn't her (it was Them; she just  
10 wasn't really that into Them!), and so she left That Other Body and  
11 came to the true beacon of liberty, justice, policy, and much quicker  
12 voting: The august House of Representatives; and

13 WHEREAS, There was an inexplicable period where for some strange  
14 reason (probably lapse of collective judgment) Cathy was not  
15 Speaker's Counsel, serving instead as just a regular (but still  
16 awesome!) counsel and then a senior counsel in the House of  
17 Representatives; and

18 WHEREAS, In 1999, everyone finally figured out what was wrong and  
19 made her Speaker's Attorney, which really worked much better for  
20 everyone and ushered in a new era of comity, great policy, stellar  
21 referrals, and all around good floor type stuff ever since; and

22 WHEREAS, While there have been other qualified and capable  
23 Speaker's Attorneys throughout the history of this illustrious body,  
24 only Cathy has been able to quell uprisings, restore order, and even  
25 completely defeat motions and amendments with no more than a harsh  
26 glance directed at the lead rabble-rouser; and

27 WHEREAS, Her parliamentary feats are renowned far and wide to the  
28 point that it is hard to separate myth from truth, and so we may  
29 never know whether she once found a bill out of order for being  
30 outside its own scope, but it sounds like something she could do for  
31 sure; and

32 WHEREAS, Cathy's institutional memory, legislative finesse, and  
33 constitutional expertise often led a former Speaker of the House to  
34 refer to his attorney as "Mrs. Speaker"; and

35 WHEREAS, Hiring Cathy proved to be the greatest economic  
36 development program ever undertaken by the state, with the state  
37 economy nearly doubling and companies such as Amazon, Starbucks,  
38 Microsoft, and Costco becoming titans on her watch; and

1       WHEREAS, She really has no faults, except that she refuses to  
2 drive in the snow, and so it is that a series of drivers has had the  
3 honor of picking her up for work and bringing her through the frozen  
4 wastes, including the current Speaker of the House (who, in addition  
5 to possessing considerable legislative prowess, seems also to be  
6 pretty okay at driving in the snow); and

7       WHEREAS, We don't know for sure when the next Rules Committee  
8 meeting will be, nor do we know how many pulls everyone will get, and  
9 there's no such thing as a "Hold List" (but, if there were, your bill  
10 is for sure on it), so just stop asking Cathy about all this because  
11 she already knows you want your bill pulled and ran on the floor, so  
12 just stop it, stop it right now, okay? We're running a retirement  
13 resolution, for crying out loud!; and

14       WHEREAS, Cathy Maynard has afforded the House the highest levels  
15 of excellence, loyalty, decorum, and appropriate feistiness during  
16 her many capacities as a most distinguished lawyer and supporter of  
17 the Legislature; and

18       WHEREAS, Cathy has counseled, mentored, and advised members and  
19 staff, both experienced and new, on parliamentary rules, procedures,  
20 ethics, and the nuances of lawmaking; and

21       WHEREAS, Cathy has announced that she is retiring this year; we  
22 think it has something to do with Peppers closing down, and no one  
23 really knows what to do about it because she's certainly earned it,  
24 but we're honestly not sure if we can keep having the Legislature  
25 without her (we're checking); and

26       WHEREAS, There's both so much more to say and yet nothing left to  
27 say about such a great woman, other than we wish she wouldn't retire  
28 (please?);

29       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives  
30 hereby direct the Chief Clerk to look into Cathy's paperwork and take  
31 such steps as may be necessary or advisable to deny her retirement;  
32 and

33       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That whatever must be done to prevail  
34 upon Cathy to stay on as Speaker's Attorney for just a couple more  
35 decades be done, including getting her some of those Oaxacan carvings  
36 she likes so much; and

37       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That if Cathy cannot be made to stay on  
38 and not leave us, then we reluctantly wish her the best and urge

1 everyone to join with us to celebrate and honor the life, legacy,  
2 work, service, and general awesomeness of Cathy Maynard.

3  
4 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
5 Resolution 4632 adopted by the House of Representatives  
6 April 24, 2021

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12 Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk