

State of Arkansas      *As Engrossed: H3/3/17*  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

HCR 1011

By: Representatives Tosh, Wardlaw  
By: Senator Elliott

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

### Subtitle

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker-Reed was appointed by Governor Jim Guy Tucker to



the Correctional Resources Commission, which was created by the 1991 General Assembly to reshape corrections in Arkansas; and as a result, Dr. Parker-Reed authored the 1993 legislation that created the state's current adult correctional configuration; and

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, through her involvement, Dr. Parker-Reed's commitment to improving Arkansas's criminal justice system extends to the Arkansas Victim

Assistance Academy, the Safe Places Development Council, and the Arkansas Police Corps; and

WHEREAS, her compassion for animals led her to co-found Arkansas Paws in Prison in 2011 that places overlooked shelter dogs into Arkansas prisons where they are trained in basic obedience by inmates; the training makes the dogs more adoptable; and this highly successful program has saved nearly 1,000 unwanted dogs from being euthanized and has provided marketable job skills to the inmate trainers,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

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

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

*/s/Tosh*