

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 418

WHEREAS, Karen Shira retired from the United Nations Information Center in Washington, D.C., on March 31, 2021, drawing to a close more than a quarter century of service to the organization; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of her exemplary 25-year tenure with the UN Information Center, Mrs. Shira worked closely with four secretaries general of the UN, helping to coordinate their visits to Washington to meet with the president and other high-ranking federal officials; in addition, she oversaw the office's accounting, financial, and human resources functions, and in recent years she was responsible for hiring and mentoring members of its renowned internship program; she also was a key player in three large lease renegotiations; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shira began her career with the finance department of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, and worked for a time as an accountant in the private sector; in 1983, she graduated from the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy at the top of her class and became a deputy sheriff with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department; she later played a vital role in establishing the accounting practices of the State Justice Institute in Alexandria, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, In all her endeavors, Mrs. Shira has enjoyed the love and support of her husband, James, as well as that of her three sons; the Shiras recently moved to Fort Worth to be close to their family; and

WHEREAS, Karen Shira's dedication, hard work, and commitment to excellence have greatly benefited the mission of the United Nations and earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues, and she may indeed reflect with pride on a career well spent as she embarks upon the next exciting chapter of her life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby congratulate Karen Shira on her retirement from the United Nations Information Center and extend to her sincere best wishes for the future; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for Mrs. Shira as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Powell

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 17, 2021.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate