

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Carolyn Joan Pollan, born July 12, 1937, in Houston, Texas, was a member of the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1974 to 1998. She was respected by her colleagues and loved by her family and friends. Carolyn passed away on October 23, 2021. She was a dedicated and caring representative for the people of Arkansas for 24 years; and

WHEREAS: Pollan was a prominent advocate for children and victims of domestic abuse. After earning her diploma from Springdale High School, she went on to attend John Brown University, and upon graduation, served on the university's Board of Directors until 2008. She later obtained her PhD in Education from Walden University. Pollan first became involved in politics as a volunteer for Winthrop Rockefeller's gubernatorial campaigns in the 1960s; and

WHEREAS: Carolyn Pollan was a true servant of the people, and in 1974, she was elected by constituents of Sebastian County as a representative with the Arkansas House. At the time, she was one of three female legislators. Pollan served on the Education Committee, Legislative Council, and Joint Budget Committee and also created the Children and Youth Committee, of which she was later appointed chair. She was the first woman to be appointed as associate speaker pro tempore of the Arkansas House. In 1977, Pollan was essential in spearheading efforts to revive consideration of the Equal Rights Amendment in the Arkansas legislature. Despite various setbacks and obstacles, Pollan maintained her passionate voice for children and victims of abuse and helped create the Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape, and Domestic Violence; and

WHEREAS: Upon her retirement from the Arkansas House in 1998, Pollan continued to be active in Arkansas politics. She served as legislative liaison for Governor Mike Huckabee and was appointed to the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission. She served as chair for the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement and was one of the original co-editors of the *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*; and

WHEREAS: Carolyn Pollan was a compassionate woman whose desire was to serve others in her local community and her state. Her passion empowered her in this life mission, and her passing brings a great loss to the people of Arkansas;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, in tribute to the memory of Carolyn Pollan and as an expression of public sorrow, do hereby direct that the United States flag and the state flag of Arkansas be flown at half-staff on October 27, 2021, to sunset on the day of interment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 27th day of October, in the year of our Lord 2021.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

John Thurston, Secretary of State