



CALIFORNIA SENATE

RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Darrell Steinberg, President pro Tempore of the California State Senate;
and the Honorable Noreen Evans, 2nd Senatorial District;
Relative to Commending

Beth Jay

WHEREAS, Beth Jay, who has significantly influenced the administration of justice of California while serving as Principal Attorney to three Chief Justices of California over more than 25 years of her 33-year career at the California Supreme Court, is retiring, and it is appropriate to extend to her special public recognition and commendations; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Vassar College and Stanford Law School, Beth Jay first engaged in private practice in San Mateo County, and within three years of joining the bar, she argued before the California Supreme Court and tried civil rights cases in the federal courts; and

WHEREAS, After serving as a staff attorney at the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Beth Jay joined the California Supreme Court in 1980 as a staff attorney, and in 1987, she became a key advisor on policy and administrative issues affecting the court and the branch, and her work included joining with justices and judges in the reorganization of the Judicial Council to serve the branch and the public more effectively; and

WHEREAS, As Principal Attorney to Chief Justice Malcolm M. Lucas, Chief Justice Ronald M. George, and Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Beth Jay's distinguished career has touched on wide-ranging roles dealing with access to justice issues—from gender equality in the bench and bar to adequate funding for the judicial branch to providing clear ethical guidance for judges through the Code of Judicial Ethics, and she has served on numerous Supreme Court, Judicial Council, and State Bar committees, studying such issues as judicial ethics, professionalism, multi-jurisdictional practice, accreditation of online law schools, publication of Court of Appeal decisions, providing competent counsel to death row inmates, and attorney discipline and admissions; and

WHEREAS, Beth Jay's administrative and policy responsibilities have included serving as the Supreme Court's liaison to the Judicial Council, The State Bar of California, the State Bar Court, and the Commission on Judicial Performance, and she has interacted regularly with the leadership of the Administrative Office of the Courts in areas including policy, budget, legal affairs, and legislative issues; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, The State Bar awarded Beth Jay the prestigious Bernard E. Witkin Medal, which honors attorneys, judges, and legal scholars whose lifetime body of work has altered the legal landscape, and she has been repeatedly named one of the 100 most influential lawyers in the State by the legal newspaper, Daily Journal; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Beth Jay has served as President of the Edward J. McFetridge Inn of Court and was selected by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California to serve as an attorney representative from 2003 to 2006, and she also served on the OneJustice Advisory Board developing a series of hearings held statewide to illuminate the need for increased resources for legal services and the courts; and

WHEREAS, The contributions that Beth Jay has made in the evolution of California Supreme Court and judicial branch issues for more than 30 years have been invaluable, and she has made a lasting impression on those individuals with whom she has been associated; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE DARRELL STEINBERG AND SENATOR NOREEN EVANS, That Beth Jay be extended deep appreciation for her dedication and contributions to the people of the State of California, and conveyed best wishes for all the richness and rewards of an active and productive retirement.

Member Resolution No. 213
Dated this 18th day of December, 2013.

Honorable Darrell Steinberg
President pro Tempore of the California State Senate

Honorable Noreen Evans
2nd Senatorial District