

House Resolution 1006

By: Representative Golick of the 34<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Honorable Debra Bernes; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Honorable Debra Bernes has long been recognized by the citizens of East Cobb  
3 County for the vital role that she has played in her community and her strong commitment  
4 to helping others in her role as advocate, teacher, and mentor; and

5 WHEREAS, on November 23, 2004, Judge Bernes was elected as the seventieth judge to the  
6 Georgia Court of Appeals in the most competitive and longest lasting judicial election in  
7 Georgia history, a true testament to her tenacity, dedication, and hard work; and

8 WHEREAS, her candidacy represented a convergence where the best candidate was also the  
9 most qualified candidate as was clearly recognized by Georgia's voters; and

10 WHEREAS, a member of the Georgia bar since 1979, this legal scholar has litigated all  
11 aspects of civil and criminal proceedings, publicly and privately, having served as assistant  
12 district attorney for the Cobb Judicial Circuit for more than 20 years and having established  
13 her own law practice representing individuals, businesses, and governments in all types of  
14 cases including trial and appellate matters; and

15 WHEREAS, she has been an active volunteer in civic and charitable affairs and is a current  
16 member of the Kiwanis Club of Marietta and a member of the Jewish Educational Loan Fund  
17 Board; and formerly served as a member of the Cobb 2000 Commission, the Cobb-Marietta  
18 Junior League, the East Cobb Jaycees, the Willow Point Service League, and the Erwin  
19 Zaban Leadership Development Program; and

20 WHEREAS, this remarkable lady has received recognition from innumerable organizations,  
21 including the Kiwanis Club of Marietta Distinguished Service Award in 1997 and the 2004  
22 Woman of Achievement Award from the Y.W.C.A. of Northwest Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, Judge Bernes has diligently and conscientiously devoted countless hours of her  
2 time, talents, and energy to teaching and lecturing for a wide array of groups including the  
3 North Georgia Police Academy, the Prosecuting Attorney's Council of Georgia, the National  
4 District Attorney's Association, the Appellate and Local Government Sections of the State  
5 Bar of Georgia, and the Institute of Continuing Legal Education; and

6 WHEREAS, her professional and community achievements would not be as pleasurable if  
7 it were not for the love, understanding, and support of her family which includes her husband  
8 Gary, who worked tirelessly on her campaign, and their talented children, Lanie and  
9 Matthew; and

10 WHEREAS, she is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for  
11 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the  
12 outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately  
13 recognized.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
15 the members of this body commend Honorable Debra Bernes for her election to the Georgia  
16 Court of Appeals and extend to her their most sincere best wishes for continued success and  
17 happiness.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
19 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Honorable Debra Bernes.