Whereas, Mollie O'Connell Phillips served as an active member of the State Board of Education since her appointment by Governor Tom Ridge in December 1997; and

Whereas, Ms. Phillips provided significant statewide leadership on important issues impacting special education and gifted education through her role as Chair of the Board’s Committee on Chapters 14, 15 & 16; and

Whereas, Ms. Phillips helped foster greater collaborations between school districts and local law enforcement through her contributions to the development of the first set of state regulations addressing school safety during her service on the Committee on Chapter 10; and

Whereas, Ms. Phillips devoted her professional life to public education and, in her role as a member of the Council of Basic Education, consistently kept the best interest of students first and foremost in the Board’s deliberations; and

Whereas, Her contributions enhanced and enriched the work of the Board through her keen understanding of the intersection of state policy and its implementation at the local level; now therefore be it

Resolved: That the members of the State Board of Education hereby express their heartiest appreciation and highest commendation to our friend and colleague Mollie O’Connell Phillips for her devoted service and invaluable contributions to education in this Commonwealth.

Given under my hand and our seal this 9th day of November 2016

Larry Wittig
Chairman