

HOUSE RESOLUTION 197
By Patton

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ruth R. Broyles of
Johnson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of
the death of Ruth R. Broyles; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles was an exemplary public servant and consummate
professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in
numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the loving daughter of the late Floyd L. and Ethel Gross Rutledge, Ruth
Broyles was a native of Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished scholar, she was a graduate of Washington College
Academy; she earned her Bachelor's degree at the Teachers College and, in 1968, her Master's
degree at East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles began her commendable career in education as a teacher at
Jonesboro High School in the Washington County School System in 1934; she later served with
distinction as Principal of Cherokee Elementary for nine years; and

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WHEREAS, a vital member of her profession, Ruth Broyles astutely served as the Washington County Vocational Advisory Council Secretary as well as a member of the Washington County/Johnson City School Study Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee for the Washington County Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman served as President of the Washington County Retired Teachers Association and the State of Tennessee Retired Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, highly respected by her peers, Ruth R. Broyles received the E. Harper Johnson Human Relations Award from the Tennessee Education Association in 1998; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and conscientious public servant, Mrs. Broyles was appointed to the Washington County Commission and was elected as a commissioner in 1982 and 1986; she also served as a colonel, aide de camp, for the Tennessee Governor's Staff; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Broyles lent her time and remarkable talents to many civic organizations, serving astutely and steadfastly as President of the Jonesborough Elementary and High School PTA and the Washington County PTA Council, as a member of the Tennessee Congress of Parent-Teachers' Board of Managers, the Sigma Omega Society, and the Johnson City Girl Scout Council, as President of the Washington County Historical Association, as Secretary and Treasurer of Maple Lawn Cemetery and Old Jonesborough Cemetery, as an appointed Trustee of the Watauga Regional Library, as Treasurer of the Jonesborough Washington County Library Board, elected Chairwoman of the Jonesborough Civic Trust, as President of the Tuesday Garden Club, and as Chairwoman of the Jonesborough/ Washington County History Museum Administrative Board, the Advisory Board for the Jonesborough Area Senior Adult Center, and the Council of Appalachian Christian Village Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, a talented author and committed historian, she worked with the National Association for the Preservation of the Perpetuation of Storytelling and was a contributing author of the History of Washington County in 2001; and

WHEREAS, a devout member of the Presbyterian Church, Ruth R. Broyles served faithfully as a Sunday School Teacher for sixty-five years, as a member of the choir, as chairwoman of various committees, and as Elder and President of the Women's Association; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles had joyfully served as President and Vice President of the Synodical of the South, as Chairwoman of the Holston Presbytery Administrative Committee and the Search Committee for Holston Presbytery Presbyterian Women, as Historian for the Presbyterian Women of Synod of Living Waters, and as a member of the Division of Ministry, Synod of Living Waters and the Church Council for Tusculum College; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Broyles was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she will be dearly missed by her daughters, Nancy McCracken and Dava Lee Russell; her son, Joe Broyles; her sisters, Jessie Taylor and Jean Slagle; her seven grandchildren, and her fourteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ruth R. Broyles was preceded in death by her husband, David L. Broyles; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Broyles leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the epitome of a kind neighbor and citizen, Ruth Broyles's life of service and goodwill stands as a testament to the difference one person can make; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Ruth R. Broyles, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character, her unwavering

commitment to her family, and the wisdom, kindness, and courage with which she served the citizens of this State in all of her public service endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ruth Broyles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.