

HOUSE RESOLUTION 224  
By Hood

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Susye Mack Rucker of Murfreesboro.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Susye Mack Rucker; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rucker 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, a native and longtime resident of Murfreesboro, Mrs. Rucker was born on May 18, 1915 to her loving parents, Joe C. and Mary Alice Mack; and

WHEREAS, at a young age, Susye Mack Rucker recognized the importance of obtaining an education and created a life long goal of pursuing knowledge through every educational avenue; and

WHEREAS, a proficient scholar, Mrs. Rucker was educated in the Rutherford County School System and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State College; and

WHEREAS, she continued her education by attending Tennessee State University, earning a Master's Degree in 1956; Mrs. Rucker also obtained an Educational Specialist Degree from Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, her noble admiration for learning guided Mrs. Rucker to pursue a career as an educator, stressing to her students the vital significance of an education; and

WHEREAS, Susye Mack Rucker served with acumen and alacrity as an educator at Bradley and Central Middle Schools in Murfreesboro, earning the respect of peers, superiors, parents, and students alike for the exemplary quality of her work and her steadfast commitment to her pupils; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Susye Mack Rucker was appointed to the Murfreesboro City Board of Education, becoming the first African American to hold membership; and

WHEREAS, her vast experience in the classroom equipped her with the insight to better serve the needs of teachers and students; and

WHEREAS, throughout her tenure on the Murfreesboro City Board of Education, Mrs. Rucker served in a manner beyond reproach, keeping the educational interests of the students as her highest priority; and

WHEREAS, she continued as an integral part of the Murfreesboro community, serving numerous civic organizations, including the Youth Organization of Rutherford County for 46 years; the Heart of Tennessee Chapter of the American Business Women's Association; the Rutherford County Red Cross Chapter Board; the Homemakers Club; and the Better Home and Garden Club; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rucker was also an active and committed 50-year member of the Rebecca Carney Temple 798 from 1945 to 1995; and

WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary service to the Murfreesboro community, Susye Mack Rucker was awarded numerous honors, including the recognition of "Educator of the Year" from the Holloway High School Alumni Association in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Susye Mack Rucker was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church of Murfreesboro, which she served faithfully for many years as a member of the Mission Circle Number One and as a clerk from 1975 to 1997; and

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

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rucker enjoyed the unswerving devotion and loving companionship of her husband, the late Booker T. Rucker; and

WHEREAS, she will be greatly missed by her brothers, Reverend Joe C. Mack, Jr. and Cecil T. Mack, Sr. and her devoted niece, Dwella Watkins; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rucker will be lovingly remembered by her brothers-in-law and their wives, Howard and Eva Rucker; Cecil and Doris Rucker; and Charles Rucker; and her sisters-in-law, Dora Rucker; Floyd Mack; Ganiel Mack; Elexia Mack; and Nannie G. Rucker; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends; and

WHEREAS, education was regarded by Mrs. Rucker as vital to the enhancement of individuals; this belief was reflected in her life long commitment to education and the positive impact she had on the lives of her students; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rucker 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, 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 Susye Mack Rucker, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Susye Mack Rucker.

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