

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 513  
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the estimable Dr. James Theodore Jackson.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Dr. James Theodore Jackson of Dickson; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jackson was an exemplary public servant, consummate physician, and extraordinary philanthropist, who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in innumerable capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Jackson's concern for, and attention to, the people of his community stretched far beyond his medical practice; his love for Dickson and its citizenry led to his tireless and generous efforts to improve the community's educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Theodore Jackson, a lifelong Tennessean, was born March 22, 1920 in South Pittsburg, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished scholar and gentleman, Dr. Jackson graduated from the University of Tennessee Medical School in 1942; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Jackson, immediately upon his graduation from medical school, enlisted in the United States Navy to serve his country during World War II; and

WHEREAS, upon his honorable discharge from the United States Navy, he established a successful medical practice in the then farming community of Dickson, where he was known affectionately to his patients as “Dr. Jimmy”; and

WHEREAS, one of the reasons Dr. James Theodore Jackson purchased a farm with his wife, Mary, was to have a place to keep the chickens and calves with which he was sometimes paid in exchange for his medical services; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jackson’s practice prospered for more than fifty years, growing into the second largest multi-specialty practice in Tennessee; as a physician, he earned the respect of his colleagues and patients alike for his dedication, integrity, and kindness; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of his profession, Dr. James Jackson served on the President’s Advisory Committee for the University of Tennessee School of Medicine, and was one of the principal founders of the East Tennessee School of Medicine; he was also a valuable member of the Academy of Family Practice, which honored him as Family Practice Physician of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Theodore Jackson, with his two brothers, Dr. L.C. Jackson and Dr. William Jackson, founded the Jackson Clinic, and then began building Goodlark Regional Medical Center in 1956; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Dr. Jackson selflessly and magnanimously founded the Goodlark Education Foundation, which provides basic necessities, as well as computer and other technology, for public school classrooms; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Jackson, continuing his lifetime of altruism, ensured that the young people of the Dickson community would not have to forego higher education because of finances; his generosity has been responsible for 1,000 students being given the opportunity to attend colleges and universities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, with the sale of Goodlark Medical Center in 1995, he wholeheartedly embarked on a new journey in public service by creating the Jackson Foundation, which establishes and supports noteworthy educational programs, such as Eagle Squadron, which

gives public high school students flying lessons, and Dream Mission, which is an interactive space shuttle created to encourage younger students to learn more about science and technology; and

WHEREAS, among its many remarkable contributions to the people of Dickson, the Foundation's greatest gift is the Renaissance Center, a state-of-the-art facility that unites the arts with science and technology; created through Dr. James Theodore Jackson's singular vision, the Center is a place where young and old alike can expand upon their understanding of the world through the arts and sciences; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Theodore Jackson was deeply devoted to his family, and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Dr. Jackson was blessed and encircled by the love of his large family; he will be sorely missed by his wife of fifty-eight years, Mary Ann Jackson; four sons who followed in his footsteps to become physicians, Dr. James Jackson, Dr. Roger Jackson, and Dr. Robert Jackson, and our colleague Tennessee State Senator Doug Jackson, an attorney who serves astutely as Executive Director of the Renaissance Center; his six daughters, Linda Walters, Sharon Long, Teresa Todd, Lisa Hawkins, Andrea Luplow, and Amy Smith; his thirty-four grandchildren, and his nine great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, a humble and spiritual man, he was always quick to credit God for his numerous achievements; and

WHEREAS, Dr. James Jackson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and generosity in his public life, compassion and loyalty in his private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, men of Dr. James Theodore Jackson's eminent stature do not often walk among us; his imprint upon his community and its citizens is truly indelible; his 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Dr. James Theodore Jackson, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his distinguished medical career, his stalwart commitment to public service, the courage and conviction with which he lived, and his immeasurable contributions to the Dickson community, as we celebrate the beauty and joy that was his life.

. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. James Theodore Jackson.

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