

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 814  
By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Laurel Ensign-Simmons of Robertsville's Technology Student Association on winning the 2001 President's Environmental Youth Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves in this State and our nation; and

WHEREAS, Laurel Ensign-Simmons is one such exceptional student from the Robertsville Middle School who recently represented the Technology Student Association at a ceremony at the White House Rose Garden where she was presented with the 2001 President's Environmental Youth Award by President George W. Bush and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, Christie Whitman; and

WHEREAS, the students were honored for cleaning Hayes Creek as part of an "Environmental Challenge" project; they cleaned the creek, cleared and extended a pathway, tested the water and gravel, and built an outdoor classroom, with help from parent volunteers and teachers; and

WHEREAS, the Oak Ridge school was one of ten recognized nationally; the President's Environmental Youth Awards have been presented annually since 1971 to honor student projects that help protect communities and address local environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, during the ceremony, President Bush stated, "I want to thank so much the award winners for turning idealism into action; for taking a great spirit and love for our country and doing something about that spirit and love for our country. Communities are better as a result, but as importantly, you're providing a really good example of service"; and

WHEREAS, through steadfast commitment of time and effort, Laurel and her peers in Robertsville's Technology Student Association have achieved outstanding success and have joined the ranks of the best and brightest student leaders in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, their display of aptitude, ambition, and service surely bodes well for their future success and for the future of our nation; and

WHEREAS, this noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for Laurel's parents, Lee Ensign and Dan Simmons; her grandparents, Betty Simmons and the late Edward Simmons and Bill and Elaine Ensign; her sister, Molly; her school; and her community; and

WHEREAS, Laurel Ensign-Simmons embodies the laudable principles that have earned Tennessee honors as the "Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, Laurel's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; she is a living example of the exemplary quality of the youth of Tennessee and has served as an exceptional ambassador for this State; 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 hereby commend and honor Laurel Ensign-Simmons of Robertsville Middle School on receiving the 2001 President's Environmental Youth Award and wish her much continued success and happiness.

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

