

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1078

By Kilby

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ramona G. Bentz on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize, particularly on the occasion of their retirement, those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Ramona G. Bentz is one such estimable educator; having distinguished herself as an exemplary classroom teacher and educational administrator, she will soon enter into a well-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bentz served with acumen and alacrity as a Title I reading and math teacher for 27 years in the Morgan County school system, offering her expertise and guidance to countless students; and

WHEREAS, having mastered the classroom, Mrs. Bentz entered the associated field of educational administration; she served with distinction as Vice Principal at Coalfield School for two years before assuming the mantle of leadership as Coalfield's Principal; and

WHEREAS, she has enjoyed a productive tenure as Principal of Coalfield School for the past five years and has been honored for her inspiring and sagacious leadership by her receipt of the Administrator of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Robert and Armethia Lively, Ramona Bentz is a lifelong resident of Coalfield; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from her hometown high school, she earned her bachelor of science degree in biology from Southern University in Collegedale and her teaching certification from the University of Tennessee; she also holds a master's degree in educational administration from Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, ever a stalwart supporter of her profession and her fellow teachers. Mrs. Bentz is a valuable member of the Morgan County Education Association, which she has served astutely as Representative, Vice President, and President, and Delta Kappa Gamma, which she has served as Secretary and Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, a lady who appreciates the responsibilities of citizenship, Ramona Bentz donates her time and resources to several worthy causes and organizations, including the Morgan County Health Council and the Child Advocate Services Council; and

WHEREAS, she expresses her devout faith as a member of the Coalfield Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she serves on the Social Committee and the Building Committee and is active in the Children's Department; and

WHEREAS, her many professional and civic accomplishments notwithstanding, Mrs. Bentz is most appreciative of the love and support she receives from her husband of thirty-eight years, Robert "Jerry" Bentz, and their son and daughter-in-law, Trevor and Mandy Bentz, their daughter and son-in-law, Staci and Brian Moore, and their granddaughter, Reagan; and

WHEREAS, Ramona Bentz is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who has always worked assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, she has truly served as an inspiration to both her colleagues and her students, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ramona Bentz has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bentz truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized for her manifold achievements on the occasion of her retirement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Ramona G. Bentz, commending her exceptional service to the children of Coalfield and Morgan County as a classroom teacher and educational administrator,

saluting her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extending to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

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