

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 411

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Edna Loveday Rogers upon her induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those outstanding teachers who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders and educators of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable educator is Edna Loveday Rogers, who has devoted her career to the education and the instruction of young students and who was recently inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of her outstanding service to Tennessee schools; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rogers served with acumen and alacrity as a kindergarten teacher at Sevierville Primary School for thirty-three exemplary years prior to her retirement in 2001; she is one of only five teachers in the entire nation to be chosen for this year's class; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rogers's perseverance, dedication, and inspiration, both inside and outside of the classroom, earned her the respect and gratitude of her peers, her students, and her community; and

WHEREAS, born in Chattanooga, Edna Loveday Rogers attended Carson Newman College and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, from which she received her bachelor's and master's degrees; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rogers has lent her time and talents to her community by serving as a member of the Dollywood Foundation Board, a member of the Imagination Library Board, and as founder of the Chasing Rainbow Award, a national recognition of an outstanding teacher; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, she is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions honoring her excellence in teaching, including Sevier County Teacher of the Year in 1989, and Tennessee Teacher of the Year in 1989; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Edna Loveday Rogers is most appreciative of the love, support, and companionship she shares with her husband, Roy Rogers; and

WHEREAS, she was first married to the late James Loveday, a teacher and coach at Holston High School, until his untimely passing; and

WHEREAS, Edna Loveday Rogers is the proud mother of four adopted children, two of whom were special needs children featured on *Monday's Child*, a local television news program that attempts to provide adoptive homes for older and special needs children; the two children she adopted had been deprived of all early education opportunities, which further inspired Mrs. Rogers to dedicate herself to teaching children the skills necessary to succeed in school; and

WHEREAS, she also has two step-children from Mr. Rogers's first marriage, as well as six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rogers is an active and devout member of Providence Baptist Church, where she worships faithfully; and

WHEREAS, Edna Loveday Rogers truly epitomizes the ideal of 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; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join with the family, friends, and colleagues of Mrs. Edna Loveday Rogers in congratulating her upon her induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame, honor and commend her substantial legacy as a teacher at Sevierville Primary School, and offer our best wishes for much continued happiness.

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