

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 885

By Coley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Rachel LaVae Escue of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Rachel Escue; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, Rachel LaVae Escue was an extraordinary young woman whose beauty and charm were only surpassed by her kindness and consideration for others and the joy she brought to all who had the privilege of knowing her; and

WHEREAS, often described as a breath of fresh air with a gift for living, Rachel was deeply admired by her many friends and fellow students at Bolton High School, where she was a cheerleader and was known for brightening the day of everyone she met; and

WHEREAS, possessing compassion rare for such a young age, Rachel planned to attend the University of Memphis after graduation and dreamed of becoming an ophthalmologist so she could help people who could not afford good eye care; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Escue's life was cut tragically short before she could realize that dream; a selfless decision she made when she earned her driver's license, however, ensured that her legacy of kindhearted generosity would live on; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Escue was an organ donor, and her gift saved the lives of five people, including a mother of three; her tissue and bone donations saved countless others; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this extraordinary gift, Rachel was one of thirty-eight donors honored on the 2009 Donate Life float in the New Year's Day Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, California; and

WHEREAS, this float represented millions of people touched by organ and tissue donation, including donor families, their deceased loved ones, living donors, transplant recipients, and transplant candidates; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Escue was truly devoted to her family and is deeply mourned by her beloved parents, Jencie and Mark Escue, and her especially beloved sister Jamie Escue; and

WHEREAS, those who loved Rachel the most now take special comfort in the five lives that now go on because of her benevolent foresight; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Escue leaves behind indelible memories of her kind and generous nature, her free spirit and ever-present smile, and a passion for life rarely equaled; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the life of this exceptional young woman who has passed from our lives in the full bloom of youth and promise; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Rachel LaVae Escue, reflecting fondly upon her exceptional spirit, her selfless gift of life, 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 Miss Escue.

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