

HOUSE RESOLUTION 312

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the League of Women Voters of Nashville upon the celebration of its 90th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should specially recognize those exemplary clubs and organizations that are comprised of concerned citizens who are dedicated to improving the quality of life in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of Nashville is one such estimable organization that will be celebrating its 90th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, a non-partisan political organization, the League of Women Voters of Nashville encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, this admirable organization traces its rich history back to February 14, 1920; when passage of the Nineteenth Amendment appeared to be imminent, members of the National American Woman Suffrage Association met to form the League of Women Voters of the United States to finish the fight and end all discrimination against women; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee League of Women Voters held their first meeting on May 18, 1920 at the State Capitol in Nashville and, throughout their two day meeting, decided to make Tennessee the thirty-sixth state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment; their dreams were realized on August 18, 1920, when the Tennessee General Assembly, by a one-vote margin, voted to finally pass the proposed amendment and give women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 1920s the Tennessee League of Women Voters held citizenship schools and pushed for specific legislation to benefit women and children; and

WHEREAS, at their convention of 1936, these remarkable women adopted as their major program item the abolition of the poll tax as a voting prerequisite; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to its original mission of making democracy work for all citizens, today, the League of Women Voters of Nashville furnishes the public with unbiased, non-partisan information about elections, the voting process, and a variety of issues; and

WHEREAS, these remarkable women also work assiduously to influence public policy through advocacy, campaigning for a variety of important causes close to the hearts of Tennesseans, including advocating for high quality education and health care, a clean environment, a fair electoral process, and equal access to education, employment, and housing; and

WHEREAS, because of its long-standing non-partisan and un-biased approach to educating voters and reforming governmental systems, the League of Women Voters of Nashville is a well-known and highly credible voice on reforms that affect the public; and

WHEREAS, the members of this laudable organization are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and they should be especially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we join with the members of the League of Women Voters of Nashville in celebrating the organization's 90th Anniversary, commend them on nine decades of exemplary service to their community, this State, and our Nation, and wish them much continued success in their 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.