

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 130

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ruby Schoonover on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of employment; and

WHEREAS, Ruby Schoonover is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for nearly fifty-nine years as an employee of the Jackson Clinic; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Schoonover will be taking her much deserved retirement on May 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, a native of Gibson County, Ruby Schoonover was born on May 17, 1930, and is a lifelong resident of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, she attended Concord Community Grammar School, graduated from Milan High School in 1949, and attended West Tennessee Business College in Jackson from 1949 through 1950; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, Ruby Schoonover served the United States as a Civilian Clerk of the U.S. Army Reserve in Jackson; when the Army Reserve unit relocated to Fort McPherson in Georgia in October of that same year, Ms. Schoonover remained in Jackson in search of local employment; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 1950, the Jackson Clinic, a premier health care clinic that was just opening, asked West Tennessee Business College to send some temporary employees to assist the staff; the College sent Ruby Schoonover; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Schoonover served as a temporary employee of the Jackson Clinic from November 6, 1950, until May 16, 1995, when her status was finally changed to “permanent employee”; and

WHEREAS, she has outlasted and out-performed hundreds of physicians and staff personnel who have worked at the Jackson Clinic during her fifty-eight and one half year tenure, and she is the last individual on staff who was part of the original Jackson Clinic organization; and

WHEREAS, during her long employment with the Jackson Clinic, Ruby Schoonover has served in almost every non-physician capacity, including as a File Clerk, Receptionist, Medical Secretary, Physician Secretary, Credit Clerk, Insurance Supervisor, Reception Supervisor, Maintenance Supervisor, Nursing Supervisor, Manager of Clinic Vehicles, and Administrative Assistant; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Clinic honored her dedicated service by awarding Mrs. Schoonover the only reserved parking space at the Clinic, with a sign referencing Psalm 118:24 (“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it”) and bearing a drawing of her personal symbol, a butterfly; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty-five years, Ms. Schoonover served as the Clinic’s Physician Relations Manager, nurturing and guiding patients and young doctors at the beginning of their medical careers; and

WHEREAS, she is a devout follower of Christ who has been named “The Soul of the Jackson Clinic,” and she is known for offering unconditional love to those she meets; she was baptized on February 17, 1952; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Schoonover also served as a Watchman Prayer Leader Trustee, a member of the Pastor Search Committee, and in the Women’s Ministry and Sunday School at her church; and

WHEREAS, Ruby Schoonover exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to career and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. Schoonover has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we extend to Ruby Schoonover 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.