

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 755

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of McWherter Scholar
Morgan Elizabeth Kelley.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Morgan Elizabeth Kelley; and

WHEREAS, a native of Jackson, Tennessee, Morgan Kelley 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 to know her; and

WHEREAS, Miss Kelley was deeply admired by her many friends and fellow students at Lambuth University, which she attended as a Faculty Select Scholar and Honors Course Scholar; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable college career, Morgan Kelley maintained an exemplary record of academic achievement while majoring in biology and participating in numerous extracurricular activities and planned to attend the University of Tennessee Nursing School after graduation; and

WHEREAS, Morgan's estimable leadership skills enabled her to serve her fellow students as Student Government Association (SGA) Senator during her junior year and as Vice President during her senior year; and

WHEREAS, she also served as student ambassador and orientation leader and was a key member of the Chemistry Club, Biology Club, and the Homecoming Committee; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity, Miss Kelley attended the Emerging Leadership Institute during the summer of 2008 and the Leadership Academy in the spring of 2009; she was an Alpha Omicron Pi International Convention Senate Delegate, as well as an Alpha Omicron Pi House Manager, Standards Committee Member, Recruitment Chair, and was serving as Chapter President at the time of her passing; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her many exemplary achievements, Morgan Kelley received numerous awards and accolades, including the Alpha Omicron Pi Rising Junior Award and Rising Senior Award, Dean's List designation, and recognition at the American Heart Association Conference, an organization for which she stood as a spokesperson, and was even featured in an article in the *West Tennessee Woman's Journal* in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Morgan was selected from the leading students across West Tennessee for the Ned McWherter Scholars Program and was a popular leader in that distinguished group of leaders; and

WHEREAS, strongly committed to community and public service, Morgan endeavored to serve her fellow citizens through volunteer work with the Star Center, Kiwanis Center, LANA Fall Festival at Lambuth University, Alpha Omicron Pi Easter Egg Hunt for LANA children, LANA Mardi Gras Parade, and the following fundraising events benefitting arthritis research: Smoke Out Arthritis BBQ, Rock Out Arthritis Band Benefit, Mother-Daughter Tea Benefit, and the Greek All-Sing Benefit; and

WHEREAS, an endearing young woman, Morgan Kelley was an employee of Hidden Valley Golf Club, where she earned the respect of her supervisors and the confidence and friendship of her customers; and

WHEREAS, she was an active and devout member of Grace United Methodist Church in Jackson, which she served faithfully and where she was much loved; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Kelley was truly devoted to her family and will be deeply mourned by her beloved parents, Jan and Michael Kelley, and her especially beloved sister Shannon Kelley; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Kelley leaves behind indelible memories of her kind and generous nature, her vibrant personality 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Morgan Elizabeth Kelley, reflecting fondly upon

her impeccable character 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 Kelley.

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