

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 833

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charlene Frye Walker of Maryville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Charlene Frye Walker; and

WHEREAS, Charlene Walker was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker served with acumen and alacrity for almost forty years as the co-owner of Photography by Don White Walker, in which position she earned much respect for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, most dear to Mrs. Walker's heart was her labor of love with the Hope for Today Cancer Support Group, which she founded and for which she had served as Executive Director since 1998; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker bravely fought back cancer three times, and she believed she was led by God to start Hope for Today; and

WHEREAS, Hope for Today provides psychological, educational, and social services for cancer patients and their families and friends at no charge; and

WHEREAS, the charity also enables cancer patients to socialize with others who are newly diagnosed or those who have been cancer survivors for thirty to forty years; and

WHEREAS, the people behind this exemplary non-profit organization strive to carry out its mission as commanded by God in Romans 12:12-13: "Joyful in hope, sharing with God's people in need"; and

WHEREAS, Charlene Walker exemplified this mission in both her personal and her professional lives, and her courage was a hope, comfort, and inspiration to all who knew her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker was also instrumental in petitioning for legislation that resulted in a 2004 Tennessee state law requiring all nursing homes and assisted living facilities to have sprinkler systems; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker was an active and devout member of the Piney Grove Baptist Church, which she served faithfully for over forty years as a choir member and Sunday School teacher; and

WHEREAS, Charlene Walker was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband of forty years, Don White Walker; she is further survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Tina and Keith Hackney; her son, Ryan Walker; her sisters and brothers-in-law, Louise and Bill Nichols and Annette and Craig Manley; her grandchildren, Trey, Claire, and Cade; and her nephew, Michael Frye; and

WHEREAS, Charlene Frye Walker leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; 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 Charlene Frye Walker, 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 Mrs. Walker.

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