

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 823

By Shipley

A RESOLUTION to commend Bobbie Patray for her twenty-five years of honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Bobbie Patray is one such admirable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patray has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, she is celebrating twenty-five years of outstanding service as a citizen lobbyist for the Tennessee Eagle Forum; and

WHEREAS, the forum's mission is to enable conservative and pro-family men and women to participate in the process of self-government and public policymaking so that America will continue to be a land of individual liberty, respect for family integrity, public and private virtue, and private enterprise; and

WHEREAS, Bobbie Patray was born in Goodlettsville in August of 1940 and graduated from Bradford High School in Starke, Florida, in 1957; her future husband, Ron Patray, was a senior at Bradford High School when Bobbie was a freshman; and

WHEREAS, after working for approximately eighteen months, Ron started school at the University of Florida, where Bobbie helped him earn his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and his master's degree; and

WHEREAS, in the mid-1970s, Mrs. Patray began reading materials which opened the world of politics and public policy to her; and

WHEREAS, she joined the Alabama Eagle Forum, in which she was active until her family moved to Lexington, Kentucky, in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Bobbie joined with other conservatives to start a chapter of Eagle Forum in Lexington, which she served as president until her family moved to Nashville; and

WHEREAS, during her last three years in Kentucky, Mrs. Patray served with acumen and alacrity as a legislative aide in the Kentucky General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Patray family moved to Nashville in 1986, where Bobbie Patray became president of the Tennessee Eagle Forum. She started at the Capitol in early 1987 as a full-time lobbyist; and

WHEREAS, Bobbie Patray has served on a number of boards, committees, and organizations promoting pro-life, and pro-family public policies and has won various awards in recognition of her achievements; and

WHEREAS, she also received the prestigious Eagle Award and, most recently, ACT for America named her the 2011 Citizen Legislator of the Year, for her efforts in making Tennessee the first state in the nation to pass the American Law for Americans Courts Act; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patray has worked tirelessly for more than twenty-five years to host state conferences, teach citizen lobby trainings, and work with legislators; and

WHEREAS, Bobbie Patray is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Bobbie Patray for her twenty-five years of honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee, salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness 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.