

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1133

By Brooks K

A RESOLUTION to honor the participants of the Pro-Life Oratory Contest for Tennessee High School Students.

WHEREAS, annually over 150 students from across Tennessee participate in the Pro-Life Oratory Contest for Tennessee High School Students sponsored by area chapters of Tennessee Right to Life, who have helped it to become one of the largest pro-life speech contests in the country; and

WHEREAS, for ten years, Aquinas College in Nashville has partnered with Tennessee Right to Life to host the contest and will once again welcome local winners to the state contest this year to be held on May 5, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the first-place winner goes on an all-expenses-paid trip to represent Tennessee Right to Life at the National Competition, which is part of the National Right to Life Convention held this year in Washington, D.C., in June. While there, they are also able to attend the Teen Track at the convention. Two years ago, Nashvillian Clay Smith was the winner of the national contest; and

WHEREAS, campus groups have started as a result of the contest: Freed-Hardeman Right to Life, MTSU Raiders for Life, UT Martin Students for Life, and Belmont Students for Life; and

WHEREAS, the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States was designed for the people to "secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity"; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Constitution declares that no person shall be deprived of his life, liberty, or property; and

WHEREAS, it is a guiding principle of Tennesseans that every human life has inestimable meaning and value; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans aspire to honor the dignity and worth of every person and to defend the sacredness of each human life; and

WHEREAS, the character of Tennesseans is to care for society's weakest and most vulnerable including the infirm, the elderly, the disabled, and the unborn; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Haslam proclaimed Sunday, January 22, 2012, as "Sanctity of Human Life Sunday" in Tennessee and encouraged all citizens to join him in the worthy observance; 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 honor the participants of the Pro-Life Oratory Contest for Tennessee High School Students and extend to them our best wishes for continued success in all 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.