

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 220

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sandy Bryan Hodge.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Pastor Sandy Bryan Hodge; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Bryan Hodge was an exemplary public servant, consummate professional and devoted pastor who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Hodge served with wisdom and alacrity in many diverse ministries, as pastor to three Methodist churches and as an oncology chaplain with St. Thomas Hospital, in which positions she earned the respect of her peers, fellow Christians and congregations; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Bryan Hodge was raised in Hampton, Kentucky; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Hodge heard the call from God early in her life to unselfishly devote her life to spreading God's Word through her many sundry and abundant ministries; and

WHEREAS, utterly dedicated to education and religious understanding, she received a Bachelor of Science degree from Western Kentucky in 1974, a Master of Arts from Scarritt College for Christian Workers in 1976 and a Master in Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School in 1992; and

WHEREAS, a legacy of love and grace describing her life, Pastor Sandy Bryan Hodge was ordained in the Tennessee Conference in 1995; and

WHEREAS, as an exemplary woman of God, Sandy Bryan Hodge served as pastor of Martin's Chapel and Mt. Zion United Methodist Churches from 1996 to 1999, and she lead the noble members of Inglewood United Methodist Church from 1999 to 2004; and

WHEREAS, always willing to share her love, time, home and work as a testament to her open acceptance of all, she was an active and devout woman of God for the children's ministries of United Methodist Urban Ministries; and

WHEREAS, defined by a strong opposition to injustice, Pastor Hodge was dedicated to The Peace Advocate & Family Ministries Programs of the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Hodge retired in 2004, and she and her family returned home to Edgehill United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Sandy Bryan Hodge was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman is survived by her husband, Mike Hodge; her sons, Zachary Bryan Hodge, Joshua Bryan Hodge, and Micah Bryan Hodge; her brother, Andy Bryan; her sister, Pat Bryan Wyatt; her father's wife, Nola Bryan, and her extended family in Kentucky and Georgia; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her parents, Ruth Maxine Weaver and Charles Franklin Bryan; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Bryan Hodge leaves behind an unforgettable legacy of integrity and probity in religious 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 exemplary minister and remarkable human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mrs. Sandy Bryan Hodge, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character as a leader in ministries 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. Hodge.

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