

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 312

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Annie Laura Jennings for her lifetime of community service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly salute those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Annie Laura Jennings, who has dedicated her life to serving her community; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jennings is an astute and dedicated community leader who has earned the respect of her peers and the citizens she serves for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Ripley, Annie Laura Jennings is the daughter of William and Lela Douglas; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jennings is a 1956 graduate of Ripley High School, and she briefly attended the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, she was elected to the position of Register of Deeds for Lauderdale County, a position she held for twenty-eight years, and became the first woman to be elected a courthouse official; and

WHEREAS, Annie Laura Jennings is deeply involved in various organizations in her community, including the Rotary Club, First United Methodist Church, Grace Place Methodist Church, Mustard Seeds Cancer Support Group, the Exchange Club Carl Perkins Center of Lauderdale County, the Ripley/Lauderdale County Junior Auxiliary, Martha's Cupboard, and a prison ministry in Lauderdale County, and she is active in the Emmaus community; and

WHEREAS, she also devotes much of her time to the American Cancer Society, and her contributions to that noble institution include writing acknowledgments to memorial and honorary recipients, appealing for funds to find a cure for the disease, preparing lunch, coordinating a monthly cancer support group, and knitting caps for those undergoing chemotherapy, and she was the driving force behind Ripley's Relay For Life; and

WHEREAS, Annie Laura Jennings has received many awards for community involvement, including the Lauderdale County Exchange Club Book of Golden Deeds, Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year, and Fraternal Order of Police Woman of the Year, and she received special recognition from the United Methodist Women; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Jennings enjoys spending time with her family, and she was the wife of the now-deceased Albert Leland Jennings Jr. and is the proud mother of Albert Leland Jennings III (Tina), Melinda Jennings Pilcher (Kenny), and Emily Jennings Elkins; and

WHEREAS, she is the loving grandmother of Kristina Jennings, Albert Leland Jennings IV, Sara Pilcher, Paul Pilcher, and Sam Elkins; and

WHEREAS, the Lauderdale County community and the State of Tennessee are undoubtedly better places to live because of the life and service of Annie Laura Jennings; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Mrs. Jennings who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Annie Laura Jennings for her many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, her unwavering commitment to others, and her astute leadership in Ripley; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Annie Laura Jennings on a lifetime of service to her community, commend her outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership, and community

spirit, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness in all 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.