

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 445

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Exie "Bernice" Benson Waddell of Mason.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Exie "Bernice" Benson Waddell; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Waddell 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, Exie Waddell served with acumen and alacrity as former vice president of the William B. Tanner Company and Media Services, Inc., in which position she earned the respect of her peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, a proven entrepreneur, Mrs. Waddell was also the former owner of Waddell Feed and Seed and Waddell Grainery, both in Mason; and

WHEREAS, Exie Waddell was an active and devout member of the Braden United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for many years; and

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

WHEREAS, Exie Waddell enjoyed the loving companionship of Cullen Lee Waddell, Sr., who preceded her in death, and was the proud parent of Deborah W. Austill, Janet W. Wilburn, Cullen Lee Waddell, Jr., Joe B. Waddell, and Michael E. Waddell; and

WHEREAS, educated and raised in Lawrence County, Arkansas, Mrs. Waddell graduated from Walnut Ridge High School; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Waddell had a creative spirit and chose to write poetry in her free time, in addition to making flower arrangements, listening to music, playing the piano, and bowling in her earlier years; and

WHEREAS, Exie Waddell is survived by her children; her brother, Frank Benson, Sr.; nine grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, she is preceded in death also by her parents, Cicero William Montgomery Benson and Jessie Henson Benson; her sister, Emily Dawson; her brother, John Benson; and her grandson, Cullen Lee "Trey" Waddell III; and

WHEREAS, Exie "Bernice" Benson Waddell 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 the members of 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 NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Exie "Bernice" Benson Waddell, 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. Waddell.

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