

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 527

By Haile

A RESOLUTION to recognize Olivia Wright as a recipient of the 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize those estimable citizens of this State, both young and old, who consistently demonstrate a personal commitment to improve the lives and well-being of others; and

WHEREAS, Olivia Wright, a resident of Hendersonville and a student at Aaron Academy, is one such citizen who achieved national recognition for her exemplary volunteer service, garnering a 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wright earned this award by giving generously of her time and energy, having founded "Help Us Give Shoes (H.U.G.S.)" in 2008, an organization through which she has collected more than 90,000 pairs of shoes for people all over the world who live in poverty or have been profoundly affected by natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, Olivia, who is currently in the planning stages of building an orphanage in India, has worked with teens throughout the world to create H.U.G.S. chapters, and works with a dedicated team of local volunteers who help organize shoe drives and sort and distribute the donations; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of

young people like Olivia Wright, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting that the members of this General Assembly give recognition to and express gratitude for the vitality, altruism, and tremendous determination of young Tennesseans such as Ms. Wright, who truly are shining stars on the horizon of our State's future; 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 hereby congratulate 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award recipient Olivia Wright, recognize her outstanding volunteerism in her community, and wish her every 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.