

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 289

By Lollar

A RESOLUTION to commend Mary "Katie" Armitage for her honorable and astute service to the Millington community.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mary "Katie" Armitage has served the citizens of Millington with integrity and honor both as a volunteer and a public relations and marketing professional; and

WHEREAS, as a volunteer, Katie Armitage served Playhouse 51 as executive director, acted in plays, and performed every other conceivable task in her successful quest to have her friends and neighbors embrace community theater; and

WHEREAS, she founded an early task force to enhance agricultural and outdoor tourism in Millington; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Armitage has been a mainstay of the Millington Chamber of Commerce board, serving as finance director and chairing many committees; and

WHEREAS, as president of the Millington Arts Council, she founded the "get your goat" public art program, and she also chaired the Goat Days Festival; and

WHEREAS, on the professional level, Katie Armitage was first employed with the City of Millington in marketing, tourism, and public relations, working closely with the Industrial Development Board, the Millington Naval Base, and the farmers market; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the city's employ, she began working as the director of marketing and public relations for the Memphis International Raceway, bringing the Hot Rod Power Tour and 15,000 race fans to the raceway over a three-day period; and

WHEREAS, Katie Armitage then rejoined Millington city government in the Department of Arts, Parks and Recreation; resuming her work with Goat Days, she added multiple activities

to the festival, including a sanctioned KCBY barbeque competition, art show, artist pavilion, tractor pull, and hot air balloon rides; and

WHEREAS, she founded the Veterans Day Parade that has recognized thousands of Millington veterans and a breakfast that honors city employees who have served our country in the military; and

WHEREAS, renowned for her work with seniors and low socio-economic citizens, Katie Armitage engaged multiple agencies during city floods to ensure that people were treated with kindness and consideration during this time of crisis; and

WHEREAS, she helped transform USA Stadium into a complex that enhances the community and brings thousands of people to Millington each year; and

WHEREAS, truly a jack of all trades and master of most, Kate Armitage has negotiated, written, and received grants from the state and federal government to enhance Millington's community parks, helped bring thousands of dollars in tax revenues and new spaces to the city, written countless press releases, and upgraded the technology that the city uses for calendars and communications; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Earl and Mary Lou Krieger, Katie Armitage holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, she is fortunate to share both love and companionship with her husband of more than twenty years, Danny Armitage, and their daughter, Ellie, who is graduating from Bolton High School this spring; and

WHEREAS, Katie Armitage is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commend Mary "Katie" Armitage for her honorable and astute service to the Millington community in a multitude of roles and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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