

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 413

By Littleton

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mary Bell for her living kidney donation.

WHEREAS, it is the pleasure of this General Assembly to recognize those citizens whose lifesaving actions are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bell is one such individual, who donated one of her kidneys to a stranger, thus adding years to the life of the man who received it; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bell became aware of living kidney donations after seeing a news clip about a teacher who needed a transplant; she was not a match for the teacher, so she decided to become a non-directed donor, one who does not know or choose the recipient; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bell donated her right kidney in October 2017, and one month later, she met the recipient of her kidney, Dr. Joe Bailey of Johnson City; and

WHEREAS, since that time, she has spoken to twenty-two civic groups about living organ donation and how she traded three weeks of her life to give Dr. Bailey many years of healthy living; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Dickson, Mary Bell worked for thirty years as a registered nurse until her retirement; she has delivered Meals on Wheels for twenty-six years and served on the boards and committees of many nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, a devoted follower of Jesus Christ, she is a member of Dickson Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which she has served faithfully for thirty-one years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bell is most grateful for the love and support she shares with her six children; she enjoyed many happy years of marriage with her husband before his passing eleven years ago; and

WHEREAS, Mary Bell's selfless actions have been life-changing, and she is worthy of our commendation and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Mary Bell for her living kidney donation and extend to her our best wishes for health and happiness in 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.