

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 82

By Cobb

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mary Ellen Kelly Martin for a lifetime of community service.

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

WHEREAS, Mary Ellen Kelly Martin is one such laudable individual who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, fondly known as “Pug”, Ms. Martin was born in Dayton, Tennessee and graduated from Rhea Central High School and McKenzie Business College, where, because of her natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, she was personally chosen by the president of the college to serve as an assistant to a Chattanooga accountant; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Pug Martin served with acumen and alacrity as a bookkeeper at Town and Country Restaurant, where she earned the respect of her peers and superiors alike due to the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, a highly influential figure in the party of Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan, Ms. Martin expertly executed all of her duties and masterfully provided essential constituent services as an administrative assistant in Congressman Bill Brock’s Chattanooga office; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life, Ms. Martin has worked assiduously to elect common sense conservatives who will uphold America’s founding principles; she rendered sterling service as the campaign manager for both Howard Baker and Lamar Baker, during their bids for Congress; and

WHEREAS, having displayed an outstanding work ethic and unwavering commitment to the Grand Old Party's noble ideals, Pug Martin was twice elected President of the Rhea County Republican Women; and

WHEREAS, after spending ten years in Tampa, Florida, brilliantly managing a title company, Ms. Martin returned to Tennessee, listened to her entrepreneurial spirit, and opened her own real estate company; and

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-eight years, Pug Martin has helped thousands of Tennesseans achieve the dream of home ownership and, because of her well-deserved reputation for professionalism, leadership, and dedication to her clients, she was named Realtor of the Year and elected President of the Realtors Association; and

WHEREAS, a steadfast servant of the Almighty, Ms. Martin is known for her solid Christian belief, her service and love, and her role as a reservoir of faith and outreach to the people of her community; and

WHEREAS, Pug Martin is the proud mother of Mary Charlotte, loving grandmother of Bachar and Tara, and doting great-grandmother of Xavian and Layla; Ms. Martin treasured the years she was able to spend with her husband, Freddie, and daughter, Kelly Patricia, before they went on to receive their great reward; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Martin 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 SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Mary Ellen Kelly Martin for her service to the people of her community and the State of Tennessee, thank her for all she has done to improve the lives of her fellow citizens, and wish her all the best 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.