

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 94

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Margaret Cole upon being named the 2010-2011 Altrusa Woman of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Margaret Cole of Madison County, who was recently named the 2010-2011 Altrusa Woman of the Year and presented this prestigious award at Altrusa's 59th Woman of the Year Banquet held at Lambuth University in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, a non-profit organization whose primary goal is to promote literacy within the elementary schools, Altrusa bestows this prestigious honor on a woman, selected by an anonymous committee, who best exemplifies that year's theme and meets the additional requirements of being a resident of Madison County and being a non-member of Altrusa; and

WHEREAS, the 2010-2011 award theme was service and Margaret Cole was selected as the award recipient based on her service on the boards of numerous non-profit organizations and local task forces, including Court Appointed Special Advocates, the Madison County Mayor's Volunteer Program, and Essential Women; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cole has served with acumen and alacrity on the City of Jackson Safe Neighborhood Task Force, where she reviewed information and made recommendations to the city council on housing, property codes ordinances, and crime and law enforcement for neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman has also been publicly recognized for her work with victims of violence. She has been honored with several state and national awards, including the Sue Juris and Mary Renshaw awards from the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and

Sexual Violence and, in September 1997, her opinions on domestic violence were published in *Jet* magazine in an article entitled, "Why African-American Women Tolerate Violence"; and

WHEREAS, appointed by Governor Phil Bredesen to Tennessee's Domestic Violence State Coordinating Council where she now serves as secretary, Margaret Cole has served as chair of the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and currently serves as the executive director of the Women's Resource and Rape Assistance Program in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cole is a dedicated civic leader who has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through her many good works and contributions to benefit the good people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Cole epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; 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 congratulate Margaret Cole of Madison County on being named the Altrusa Woman of the Year, commend her meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success in all 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.