

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 699

By Moon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Theresa Thayer for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their time and talents to going above and beyond their civic obligations; and

WHEREAS, one such stalwart individual is Theresa Thayer, an advanced practice nurse with the Tennessee Department of Health, who recently received the Governor's Excellence in Service Award; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Excellence in Service Award was created in 2016 by Governor Bill Haslam to recognize outstanding State employees who are at the forefront of improving the way Tennessee State government delivers services; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thayer began her nursing career with the State of Tennessee as an employee of UT Hospital, where she worked on the surgery floor with dialysis patients and later helped initiate the Kidney Transplant Program; and

WHEREAS, after completing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, Theresa Thayer worked in the trauma unit at UT Hospital for seven years before transferring to Carle Clinic in Urbana, Illinois; she ultimately returned to Tennessee and subsequently pursued a degree as a nurse practitioner; and

WHEREAS, since returning to State service, Theresa Thayer has been a valued employee of the Blount County Health Department – Primary Care Clinic under the Tennessee Department of Health, working to protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, with no additional resources, Ms. Thayer has developed a groundbreaking program to treat indigent Hepatitis C patients, streamlining the process so that the time frame between a patient's diagnosis and institution of treatment is less than two months on average; and

WHEREAS, since treating its first patient on March 23, 2016, the Hepatitis C program has seen over 200 patients start medical treatment; approximately 166 have completed the program, having improved their quality of life to a level that they may have never known without Ms. Thayer's dedicated efforts; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Thayer has distinguished herself as an exemplary public servant whose commitment to providing exceptional service to the citizens of Tennessee is representative of the qualities that define the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; 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 hereby honor and commend Theresa Thayer upon her receipt of the Governor's Excellence in Service Award and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.