

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 829

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Senator Doug Overbey for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

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, one such individual is our friend and colleague Senator Doug Overbey, who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a longtime proponent for the betterment of child and family issues, Senator Overbey worked many long hours as a member of a task force established in October 2000 that sought to develop a law that would allow pregnant and scared girls a safe, secret option as an alternative to infant abandonment; and

WHEREAS, through his hard work and dedication, Senator Overbey played a vital role, along with Representative Joe McCord and Senator Bill Clabough, in the introduction of the Safe Haven Bill and its ultimate passage into law in July 2001; and

WHEREAS, subsequently, Senator Doug Overbey helped form the nonprofit organization, A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee, whose mission is to educate the public about the safe and secret options under the Safe Haven Law; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee, Senator Overbey has been instrumental in helping the organization acquire financial support and supported special events in a number of capacities; and

WHEREAS, currently a Board Member Emeritus, Senator Doug Overbey graciously served as legal counsel for the Board of Directors for many years; and

WHEREAS, he co-sponsored legislation in 2009 to amend the Safe Haven Law to expand the number of authorized safe haven locations and has continuously encouraged collaboration among government agencies and other groups to further the mission of A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Doug Overbey is dedicated and committed to raising awareness and educating others in order to protect newborn babies throughout the State of Tennessee and has always taken the time to speak to any group or organization about this important issue; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his resolute efforts, along with those of many others, eighty-three precious lives have been saved; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor our colleague Senator Doug Overbey for his distinguished service to A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee and commend his tremendous efforts to secure the safety and well-being of the newborn children of Tennessee.

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