

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 853

By Powell

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of E.J. "Doc" Kreis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of E.J. "Doc" Kreis; and

WHEREAS, a native of Montgomery, Alabama, Doc Kreis was a celebrated collegiate strength and conditioning coach, having coached at numerous NCAA Division I universities and developed innovative training techniques to improve the strength, speed, and endurance of athletes in all sports; and

WHEREAS, Earl Joseph "Doc" Kreis III was born on October 4, 1952, in Montgomery, Alabama, and was the eldest of Earl Joseph II and Frances Kreis's four children; and

WHEREAS, a talented athlete, Mr. Kreis excelled in baseball, football, and basketball; during his senior year at Mountain Brook High School, he placed second in the state decathlon championship; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school in 1970, Doc Kreis briefly attended the University of Mississippi before serving an enlistment in the U.S. Army; upon his discharge, he played linebacker and competed in powerlifting championships at Clemson University, where he earned a degree in therapeutic recreation in 1976; and

WHEREAS, his strength and conditioning coaching career began at Georgia Southern University in 1978, followed by appointments at Vanderbilt University from 1980 to 1985 and Middle Tennessee State University from 1985 to 1992, where he was named National Collegiate Strength Coach of the Year for 1991-1992 by the Professional Football Strength and Conditioning Coaches Society; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kreis also earned a master's degree and a Doctor of Arts degree in Physical Education at Middle Tennessee State University, hence the moniker "Doc"; and

WHEREAS, as a strength and conditioning coach at the University of Colorado from 1993 to 2002, he was again honored as National Collegiate Strength Coach of the Year and was selected as the first recipient of the prestigious Stan Jones Award by the International Sports Science Association in 1995; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Doc Kreis was inducted into the USA Strength and Conditioning Coaches Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, to supplement his knowledge of strength and conditioning, Doc Kreis visited numerous European training centers and received diplomas from the Lenin Institute for Physical Culture in Russia, the German Institute of Physical Culture, and the Institute of Physical Culture in Bulgaria; he also authored several books, most notably *Speed-Strength Training for Football* and *Speed-Strength Training*; and

WHEREAS, a devoted professional, Mr. Kreis served on the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association board of directors and as director of sports sciences for the International Sports Sciences Association; and

WHEREAS, Doc Kreis was a strength and conditioning coach at the University of California, Los Angeles from 2003 to 2008 and spent the last eight years of his career working in patient rehabilitation at the Soft Tissue Center in Los Angeles, California, before retiring in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kreis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional collegiate coach and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of E.J. "Doc" Kreis, reflecting fondly upon his

impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Kreis.

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.