

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 854

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Caley Williamson upon being chosen to participate in the 2014 Albert H. Small Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom Student and Teacher Institute, a National History Day program.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those young Tennesseans who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Caley Williamson, a junior holding a 4.0 grade point average at Cosby High School in Cocke County, is one such outstanding young Tennessean. She has earned the distinct honor of pairing with her teacher, April Hillery Griffin, to participate in the National History Day program called the 2014 Albert H. Small Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom Student and Teacher Institute; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished three-time participant in annual National History Day competitions, Caley Williamson has demonstrated a willingness to push herself academically and to immerse herself in substantive endeavors of inquiry and research. Her projects have exceeded the rigors and challenges of these scholastic events, and it is fitting that she was selected for the 2014 experience; and

WHEREAS, in June, Caley and Ms. Griffin will travel to Washington, D.C., where they will join the fourteen other pairings of the 2014 Institute for five days of lectures and memorial visits, after which they will travel to Normandy in France, where they will walk in the footsteps of history on the beaches of that solemn and storied battlefield where so much American blood was shed during the pivotal battle of World War II; and

WHEREAS, Caley Williamson is an extremely bright scholar whose excitement for her opportunity to be a 2014 Institute participant is steeped in family heritage. Her research has revealed that her own great-grandfather, Neil Shults, served in World War II, was wounded in combat, and subsequently died from the injury. Furthermore, her great-uncle was a soldier who fought on the beaches of Normandy, the largest amphibious invasion to ever take place in the history of the world; and

WHEREAS, in culmination of the total Institute experience, Caley Williamson will have the distinct honor to participate in a day of remembrance of the Normandy battle, and she will give a eulogy of an American serviceman of her choosing who gave the ultimate sacrifice and shed his blood on those beaches; and

WHEREAS, the National History Day program brings to life the importance of quality history education and imparts a greater understanding to students and teachers about the events and people who shaped their lives and the world as they know it today; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting for this legislative body to acknowledge the value of history and to give accolades to our youngest citizens who evidence a deep and abiding interest in not only Tennessee's history but also the nation's and the world's history in which Tennesseans have played a large and vital part; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commend Caley Williamson of Cocke County upon being chosen to participate in the National History Day program's 2014 Albert H. Small Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom Student and Teacher Institute, extend our best wishes to her in her travels to Washington, D.C., and to the beaches of Normandy in France, and for 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.