

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1048

By Alexander

A RESOLUTION to honor the disabled victims of filicide on the Day of Mourning in the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, every year on March 1<sup>st</sup>, the disability community gathers across the nation for a Day of Mourning to remember the disabled victims of filicide, that is, people murdered by their family members or caregivers over the past year; and

WHEREAS, these murders are often portrayed as justifiable and inevitable due to the perceived "burden" of having a disabled person in the family; and

WHEREAS, victims' lives are therefore assumed to have lesser value because of their disability; and

WHEREAS, disability is a natural part of the human experience; and

WHEREAS, prevention of filicide requires increased awareness; and

WHEREAS, many victims' names remain unknown or without acknowledgement and it is most appropriate that we remember and honor the victims from Tennessee who tragically lost their lives this past year; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we respectfully pay tribute to and honor the lives of Chuckey Sweeten, age thirty-nine; Ed Dossett, age forty-four; Fiona Mitchell, age ten; David Leath, age fifty-seven; Karen Dreager, age thirty-five; Robert McClancy, age fifty-six; Kairissa Mark, age four; Wieslawa Pytlinski, age fifty-seven; Arville Rhodes, age sixty-three; Shaneca Webber, age thirty; Andrea Ruth, age twelve; Skyler Craighead, age five months; Rebecca Cotten, age twenty-two; Shirley Beck, age thirty-nine; Melisha Moiser Ludwick, age thirty-eight; Sue Liner, age eighty-four; Tevaun Williamson, age seven; Ellen McKenzie, age forty-eight; Shannon

Cooper, age forty; Joe Daniels, age five; Elsie Greene, age sixty-five; Evelyn Bailey, age ninety-three; Betty Crews, age seventy-two; Sheila Murray, age sixty-eight; Ben Thompson, age seventy-two; Callie Branch, age seventy-three; Sayeed Nelson, age fourteen; Mandy Noe, age thirty-eight; John Hoover, age forty-four; Kadaris Maddox, age thirteen; and James Parham, age forty.

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.