

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1167

By Barrett

A RESOLUTION to honor SRO Tabitha Jennette of the City of Dickson Police Department for her heroism.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is blessed with diligent professionals and everyday citizens who are willing to come to the aid of persons in distress during times of crisis; and

WHEREAS, one such Tennessean is SRO Tabitha Jennette of the City of Dickson Police Department, who stepped in to save the life of a child who was choking at Centennial Elementary School on February 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, during lunch on that fateful day, SRO Jennette noticed a few students were unusually loud in the cafeteria and soon learned from them that a fellow classmate was choking; and

WHEREAS, calmly relying upon her safety training, SRO Jennette quickly took action to perform the Heimlich maneuver on the student who was choking and subsequently cleared the blockage; and

WHEREAS, when the student was able to breathe, SRO Jennette escorted her to the nurse and returned to the cafeteria to purchase ice cream for the students whose quick thinking made them true heroes in her eyes; and

WHEREAS, a 1987 graduate of Dickson County High School, SRO Tabitha Jennette previously worked in customer relations and as a bookkeeper before entering public service with the City of Dickson in February 2013, when she was employed in the tax collector's office; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, she was named the project coordinator for the City of Dickson Public Works Department and in 2016, became the program coordinator for Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, in March 2017, she received her lifeguard certification from the American Red Cross and managed the pool and lifeguard staff for the City of Dickson, still serving as the program coordinator; and

WHEREAS, SRO Jennette completed the City of Dickson Citizens Police Academy and Dickson County Leadership program in May 2017, and in 2019, she enrolled at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy through the City of Dickson Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, upon her graduation in June 2019 after twelve weeks of training, SRO Tabitha Jennette added Park Ranger to her job duties with the Parks Department; she subsequently transferred to the City of Dickson Police Department in June 2023 and was assigned to Centennial Elementary School to serve as a school resource officer; and

WHEREAS, we wish to extend our gratitude and appreciation to SRO Tabitha Jennette for her quick response on that fateful day; 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 honor and commend SRO Tabitha Jennette for her heroism in saving the life of a child who was choking at Centennial Elementary School.

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.