

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1189

By Powell

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Rodney L. Bragg of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Rodney L. Bragg; and

WHEREAS, Rod Bragg was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bragg served with acumen and alacrity as the Assistant Commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and was a member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Alcohol and Drug Authority Directors; and

WHEREAS, a state employee for more than a dozen years, he was responsible for the statewide direction in the planning, development, administration, and evaluation of publicly funded services for Tennesseans with substance use and co-occurring disorders; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Marie Williams of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services said, "Rod led with compassion and wit. His care and concern for those in need was at the center of every action. His legacy lives on in those he so transformationally touched"; and

WHEREAS, Rod Bragg brought humor, dedication, and insight to each Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug, and other Addiction Services meeting that he attended, earning the members' respect, trust, and admiration as he helped them navigate the state system and their many opportunities to serve; and

WHEREAS, born on April 10, 1955, in Oakland, Maryland, Rodney Lyle Bragg was the son of Edsil and Lovern Bragg and was raised in the West Virginia towns of Elenor and Clarksburg; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bragg held a Master of Divinity degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and received a master's degree in organizational management from Trevecca University in 1999; and

WHEREAS, prior to his tenure with the State of Tennessee, Rod Bragg served as the clinical director for Foundations Associates, an integrated co-occurring treatment, housing, and recovery support services agency, and as the program director for the Mental Health Cooperative, a case management organization in Tennessee for persons with serious and persistent mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, before relocating to Tennessee in 1990, Mr. Bragg had established the first faith-based recovery support program in the State of Pennsylvania for adolescents completing substance use disorder treatment; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bragg is survived by his parents, Edsil and Lovern Bragg; his sister, Regina Haight; his sons, Reginald Morgan Bragg and Timothy Bragg; his daughter, Michelle Daily; and his grandchildren, Jackson and Jordan; and

WHEREAS, Rod Bragg 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 the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Rodney L. Bragg, 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 Rodney L. Bragg.

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