

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1210

By West

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Liana Dranes on the occasion of the audio-visual room at Long Hunter State Park being named in her honor.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving our state parks for the enjoyment and edification of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, a member of Friends of Long Hunter State Park for several years and a long-time supporter of the Park, Liana Dranes is one such estimable citizen who assists children in appreciating and understanding the wonders of nature; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dranes serves as the Senior Aquatics Biologist at Environmental Science Corporation in Mt. Juliet; and

WHEREAS, Liana Dranes is a very environmentally conscious citizen, and she has taught and led her family by example; and

WHEREAS, she and her children have attended programs at Long Hunter State Park for some time, as well as having explored and enjoyed the Park on their own; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Ms. Dranes approached park management with a concept for an environmental education program for preschoolers; and

WHEREAS, after beginning on a trial basis, these weekly programs, which are held each Monday from August through May, have become a major part of Long Hunter State Park's educational programming, as well as an acclaimed example of environmental education throughout Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, each week for an hour, preschoolers gather at the Park office's audio-visual room with their caregivers for story time, an activity, and a craft relating to different nature

topics, such as “Wiggly Worms,” “Rowdy Raccoons,” and “Learning My Colors at Long Hunter”;
and

WHEREAS, Liana Dranes generously donates her time and has spent a great deal of her personal funds to make sure the programs are not only fun, but educational as well; and

WHEREAS, the hour-long programs start youngsters out early on the path to becoming responsible stewards of Tennessee's natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the creativity, knowledge, and enthusiasm Ms. Liana has brought to Long Hunter State Park is much appreciated by the children, caregivers, and Park staff; and

WHEREAS her many accomplishments aside, Liana Dranes is most appreciative of the love and companionship she shares with her husband, Billy, and their sons Jake and Seth, and daughter, Anna Marie; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her visionary environmental education program at Long Hunter State Park, the audio visual room at the Park's office will officially be dedicated as the “Ms. Liana Dranes Natural Circle Room” on June 12, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Liana Dranes is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Liana Dranes on the occasion of the audio-visual room at Long Hunter State Park being named in her honor, salute her for imparting the importance of environmental stewardship and conservation to our next generation of leaders, and wish her all the best in 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.