

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9019

By Mannis

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sarah Hobson Stowers of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Sarah Hobson Stowers of Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Stowers was a true humanitarian who worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on March 3, 1932, in Bluefield, West Virginia, Mrs. Stowers was the youngest of seven children born to Reverend Jennings Wise Hobson and Mary Louise Berkeley Hobson; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Stowers attended Salem Academy and Salem College in West Virginia. While in college, she met the love of her life, Harry Wesley Stowers, Sr., also of Bluefield; the couple married in 1952, and their unconditional love for over fifty-four years of marriage was inspirational to her family and countless friends; and

WHEREAS, Harry Stowers's early career took the young couple from West Virginia to Illinois and Pennsylvania; in 1960, they moved to Chattanooga, when Mr. Stowers and his brothers established Stowers Machinery Corporation, and in 1982, the family business brought them to Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stowers was an active and important part of her community who gave freely of her time and resources to St. John's Cathedral, the Knoxville Garden Club, the Knoxville Museum of Art, and The Episcopal School of Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Stowers was also an avid gardener, decorator, seamstress and bridge player; and

WHEREAS, her family was always at the center of her life, as was her unwavering Christian faith, and her most joyful moments were those spent with her family, especially large, multigenerational family events; and

WHEREAS, left to cherish her memory are her children, Wes (Liz) Stowers, Dr. Stewart (Samantha) Stowers, and Jenny (Adam) Brock; grandchildren, Lisa (Ed) Rottmann, Louisa (Nick) Baldock, Rachel (Marc) Kinney, Berkeley (Julio) Ugarte, Sarah (Michael) Smith, Carter Brock, and Jack Stowers; great-grandchildren, Sloan Baldock, Evie Baldock, Rose Baldock, Natalie Rottmann, Gabe Rottmann, Owen Rottmann, Nicholas Ugarte, Adriana Ugarte, Thomas Ugarte, Paul Kinney, Andrew Kinney, and Ella Smith; and many beloved nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Stowers was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Wesley Stowers, Sr.; parents, Reverend Jennings Wise Hobson and Mary Louise Berkeley Hobson; siblings, Julia Lindsey, Mary Barksdale, Reverend Jennings Hobson, Jr., Alice Moore, Ann Hobson, and Frances Luther; and grandson, Dr. Adam Jennings Brock; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Stowers leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sarah Hobson Stowers, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Stowers.

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.