

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 40

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Tobie L. Bledsoe of Jonesborough.

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

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

WHEREAS, born in Unicoi on December 11, 1939, Tobie Bledsoe was the daughter of the late Grady and Rozelle Robineete Briggs; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty-five years, she served with acumen and alacrity as the head surgical nurse at Northside Hospital; and

WHEREAS, a devoted public servant, Mrs. Bledsoe served as an alderwoman for the town of Jonesborough for eight years and helped establish the Jonesborough Senior Center in 1979. She was elected mayor in 2000 and fulfilled her duty admirably by adhering to her principles, following her conscience, and listening to the people of Jonesborough for eight years; and

WHEREAS, Tobie Bledsoe was an active and devout member of First Baptist Church of Jonesborough, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bledsoe was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Tobie Bledsoe will be fondly remembered by her children, Billy (Jennifer), Virginia "Sissy" (Edward Mattie), Maria, and Jonathan (Stacy); siblings, Patsy Crowe, Raymond Briggs, Larry Briggs, and Michael Briggs; brother-in law, Byron (Betty) Bledsoe; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; extended family; and close friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of fifty-four years, Baxter Johnson Bledsoe, and a nephew, Douglas Bledsoe; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bledsoe 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 the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Tobie L. Bledsoe, 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 express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Bledsoe.

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