

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 45

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Juanita Hill Baird of Jacksboro.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Juanita Hill Baird; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Baird 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, a staunch, lifelong supporter of the Republican Party, Juanita Baird served with distinction for twenty-eight years as a member of the Tennessee Republican Executive Committee, from which she retired in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Baird also contributed to the State Party as a member of the Republican Women's Club, District IV, acceding to the offices of Vice-President and Treasurer within that organization; and

WHEREAS, at the local level, Mrs. Baird lent her formidable leadership skills to the Campbell County Republican Women's Club, which thrived during her Presidency and formed the backbone of the local Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, interested as well in cultivating the leaders of the next generation, she mentored the local Young Republicans group for over twenty years; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, she was named "Tennessee Republican Woman of the Year" for her steadfast devotion and tireless service to the Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Baird gave back to her community in many other ways, serving as a member of the St. Mary's Medical Center Women's Advisory Council, to name just one; and

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

WHEREAS, until his death in 1998, Mrs. Baird enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband of over fifty years, Lendon Baird; she was the proud mother of two sons, Winston Baird and William Baird, former member of this General Assembly and current Campbell County Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her husband, Lendon, and parents, Elbert E. and Martha Massengill Hill, Mrs. Baird was preceded in death by her son Winston Baird, her brothers, Lester Hill and Lansden Hill, and her sisters, Lucy Loupe and Eileen Riggs; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Baird is survived by her son, William, and his wife, Jamie, and two grandchildren, Blake Baird and Keeling Baird, as well as several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Juanita Baird was an active and devout member of the Jacksboro First Baptist Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a Sunday school teacher and a member of the Bertha Ray Circle; and

WHEREAS, Juanita Baird 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 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 SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Juanita Hill Baird, 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. Baird.

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