

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 86

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Lauren Madison "Maddie" Ratliff on her receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated their time and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1.6 million Tennessee volunteers give over 137 million hours of community service, contributing \$3.3 billion to Tennessee's economy; and

WHEREAS, these volunteers are the backbone of our communities, and by donating their time and talents to fulfill needs that would otherwise go unmet, they embody the spirit of giving; and

WHEREAS, Lauren Madison "Maddie" Ratliff of Greeneville is one such exemplary person, who is a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award in recognition of her laudable commitment to her community; and

WHEREAS, Maddie Ratliff's career of service began at the age of only eight, when she reached out to the American Cancer Society on behalf of her mother, a then-recent cancer survivor, resulting in the organization supplying her mother a new wig, free of charge; and

WHEREAS, the next spring, while her mother was in remission, Ms. Ratliff organized her first team for the Relay for Life in Greene County; since that time, she has raised awareness of and funds for many organizations throughout East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Maddie Ratliff continues her commitment to volunteer service in a variety of capacities; through the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Organization, she developed a

platform called Make an Impact, which encourages teenagers to get excited about volunteering and guides them to many service opportunities throughout their communities; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ratliff is a model citizen; her commitment to helping others through volunteerism epitomizes the spirit of the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Lauren Madison "Maddie" Ratliff for her outstanding community leadership, congratulate her as an esteemed recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

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.