

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 290

By Akbari

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize The Links, Incorporated.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to honor and specially commend those distinguished organizations whose stated goals advance the most noble precepts of human endeavors and whose history of service in pursuit of those goals stands as an outstanding example to the citizens of this great State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable organization that evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all its chosen endeavors is The Links, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated is an international, not-for-profit corporation composed of more than 16,000 professional women of color who are committed to enhancing the quality of life in their respective communities, which are served by 292 chapters located in forty-one states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, and the United Kingdom; and

WHEREAS, accomplished, dedicated women who are active in public and charitable programs, the members of The Links, Incorporated are some of the most influential women in the world; they are business and civic leaders, role models, mentors, activists, and volunteers, and they work assiduously toward a common vision by making The Links, Incorporated synonymous with not only a chain of friendship, but also a chain of purposeful public service; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations, and it is committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the cultural and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African descent; the organization is the recipient of prestigious awards from the UN Association of New York and the Leon H.

Sullivan Foundation for its prized programs and for its consummate one million documented hours of community service contributed annually; and

WHEREAS, built on the principles of advocacy and service, The Links, Incorporated is strongly committed to making a difference in communities across this country and around the world; wherever its members may reside, they strive, both individually and collectively, to achieve equality for the thousands of people who rely on The Links, Incorporated for support; and

WHEREAS, on a practical level, The Links, Incorporated seeks to facilitate positive change through its support of solid initiatives in the arts, services to youth, and national and international trends; and

WHEREAS, The Links, Incorporated's one-million-dollar contributions to the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the United Negro College Fund, and the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis have served to perpetuate educational opportunity and advancement and have furthered justice throughout this great land; and

WHEREAS, once again, on March 13, 2023, the respected members will gather for The Links Day on Capitol Hill, during which time these incredible women from across the State will hear from their local legislators to discuss bills that impact the members' communities; and

WHEREAS, this special day has been made possible by the co-chairs who helped organize it, Marie R. Sueing and Judge Angelita Dalton, as well as Host President Sharon K. Roberson and Honorary Chair Senator Raumesh Akbari; and

WHEREAS, the women of The Links, Incorporated are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State. As ambassadors of those very precepts, whether they are Tennesseans or honorary Tennesseans, the members of The Links, Incorporated should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend the members of The Links, Incorporated for their exemplary service to their respective communities and to this nation and their ongoing commitment to attaining equality for all people, regardless of their race, religion, or socioeconomic background.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we welcome the members of the Tennessee chapters of The Links, Incorporated to Nashville in honor of The Links, Incorporated Day on Capitol Hill.

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.