

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 467

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mary Miller Ayers for her service as Clerk of the Session at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Lowland.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the members of this General Assembly to recognize those estimable individuals who devote themselves to charitable works, thereby advancing the public good; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Mary Miller Ayers, who was recently recognized by St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Lowland, the Holston Presbytery, and the Presbyterian Church USA for serving as Clerk of the Session at St. Paul Presbyterian Church for the past forty-two years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ayers is the most recent clerk in a long lineage of faithful servants to hold the position; St. Paul Presbyterian Church, which was built in 1857 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, has had a volunteer Clerk of the Session since 1818, and from 1896 until 1923, Mrs. Ayers's grandfather, Joseph A. Talley, held the position; and

WHEREAS, Mary Miller Ayers has been a devoted member of St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Lowland since 1958; she is currently a ruling elder at the church; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Clerk of the Session, Mrs. Ayers has been devoted and faithful in her duties; her conscientious service to Christ and His Church has greatly benefited all members of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, Mary Miller Ayers and her late husband, Lyman Ayers, Sr., were farmers in the Lowland community, operating a Cocke County farm that was recognized as a 200-year Century Farm; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her husband, Mrs. Ayers has been blessed to walk through this life with her sons, John (Teresa) Ayers and Malcolm (Lisa) Ayers; her granddaughter, Elizabeth (Robert) Neill; and her great-grandson, Jackson Neill; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ayers epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism that is synonymous with this State, and it is fitting that she be recognized; 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 commend and honor Mary Miller Ayers for her forty-two years of meritorious service as Clerk of the Session at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Lowland, extending to her our sincerest wishes for much success and happiness in all her future endeavors.

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