

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 476

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Senator Ruth Cline
Montgomery of Kingsport.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Ruth Cline Montgomery of Kingsport, who served her fellow citizens with distinction as a member of the Tennessee State Senate for the 2nd Senate District during the 96th and 97th General Assemblies and a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives representing the 2nd House District during the 92nd, 93rd, 94th, and 95th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, born on December 31, 1927, in Johnson City, Ruth Cline Montgomery was the daughter of Loy C. and Charlotte Starnes Cline; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Science Hill High School, she received her Bachelor of Science degree from East Tennessee State University and her Master of Science degree from the College of Business of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, during the 1950s, she taught business subjects at Dobyys-Bennet High School and Clinton High School; and

WHEREAS, she began her career in public service in 1972, when she was elected to the Sullivan County Quarterly Court, now the Sullivan County Commission; during her eight years of service with that august body, she served as chair of the Executive Committee and the Sullivan County Youth Home; and

WHEREAS, after offering herself for public service, Ruth Montgomery was elected to the House of Representatives in 1980 to serve the 2nd House District and won election to the State Senate to serve the 2nd Senate District in 1988, representing Sullivan County; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at the State Capitol, Senator Montgomery rendered sterling service as the assistant House minority leader of the 95th General Assembly and as a member of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, the Senate Government Operations Committee, the Senate State and Local Committee, the Senate Commerce, Labor and

Agriculture Committee, the Senate Rules Committee, the House Commerce Committee, the House Education Committee, the House General Welfare Committee, the House State and Local Government Committee, the House Transportation Committee, and the Fiscal Review Committee; and

WHEREAS, after taking leave of the General Assembly, Ruth Montgomery won election to the office of Mayor of the City of Kingsport, in which position she served two terms before retiring from public service; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, she was honored as East Tennessee State University's 1988 Outstanding Alumna and a member of the University of Tennessee College of Business Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, a Rotary Fellow and a member of the first class of Leadership Kingsport, Senator Montgomery was a member of the Sullivan County Republican Women, the Kingsport Rotary Club, the Kingsport Garden Club, Kingsport Tomorrow, Phi Kappa Phi, the American Dental Association Auxiliary, the Tennessee Dental Association Auxiliary, the Tennessee League of Women Voters, and the League of Women Voters in Sullivan County/Kingsport; and

WHEREAS, Senator Montgomery was deeply devoted to her family, and she enjoyed the loving support and companionship of her beloved husband, Dr. Robert H. Montgomery, until his passing; and

WHEREAS, she was the loving mother and mother-in-law of Judge Robert H. Montgomery and his wife, Jamie, and Dr. Randall C. Montgomery and his wife, Amy; and the adoring grandmother of two grandsons, Andrew Montgomery and Alex Montgomery; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Montgomery 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 we should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; 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 the memory of Senator Ruth Cline Montgomery and her life of service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee and reflect fondly upon 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 Senator Montgomery.

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.