

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 480

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Alberta Ahler Ross of Harriman.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Alberta Ahler Ross; and

WHEREAS, Alberta Ahler Ross 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, Mrs. Ross served with acumen and alacrity as a educator and administrator with the Roane County School District for many years, in which positions she earned the respect of her students and peers alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross, the daughter of Albert P. and Mattie Brown Ahler, was a 1947 graduate of Harriman High School and matriculated to Maryville College from which she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in home economics with a minor in science and elementary education in 1950. In 1975, she earned a Master of Science degree in administration and education supervision from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross taught for many years at Central Elementary School in Harriman before being named as the school's principal, a position she served with integrity for twelve years; and

WHEREAS, a beloved educator who inspired generations, Alberta Ross influenced the hundreds of young people who came through her school and classroom doors, and she worked diligently on their behalf, wanting only the best for every student; and

WHEREAS, the very personification of civic involvement, Mrs. Ross worked tirelessly with a host of organizations in Harriman, including the Women's Club, Drama Club, Music Club, Garden Club, Jaycettes, Band-Aides, Parent Teacher Organization, Delta Kappa Gamma, and the Harriman Education Association; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross was an active and devout member of the Harriman United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a Sunday School teacher and vacation Bible school volunteer; and

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

WHEREAS, for sixty years, Mrs. Ross enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, William David Ross, and she was the proud mother of daughters and sons-in-law Martha and Wally Raisanen and Betsy and Dr. Brook Schwepfinger and the devoted grandmother of Julia, Rebecca, and Rachel Schwepfinger; and

WHEREAS, Alberta Ross will be sorely missed by her brother and sister-in-law, Dr. Julian and Margo Ahler, her sister, Mary Ellen Ahler Bodman, her brother-in-law, Robert Ross, her sisters-in-law, Helen Livingston Ross and Joan McCartt Ross, and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross 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 SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Alberta Ahler Ross, 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. Ross.

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