

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 589

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Lily Turaski of Blount County for becoming the 2013 National Champion Junior Rider for endurance riding.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful athletes that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this great State; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary athlete is Lily Turaski of Blount County, who recently won the 2013 Junior Rider National Championship in endurance racing in the American Endurance Ride Conference; and

WHEREAS, Lily rode a total 465 miles with her bay Arabian, Chance of Freedom, in the limited distance division, featuring races that are twenty-five to thirty-five miles long; and

WHEREAS, Lily first began riding when she was six years old and began competing at eight years old with the support of her grandmother Tykey Truett, who rides with Lily in competitions; and

WHEREAS, in her competition career, Lily has ridden almost 2,000 miles in limited distance races, and she has raced in nine, fifty-mile races; she has traveled within a 500-mile radius to events and during the height of competition season, she will compete three weekends a month, and

WHEREAS, Lily has aimed for the National Champion title for the past three years; last year she qualified for the race and placed fourth in the junior division; and

WHEREAS, equally important in the races is her horse Chance of Freedom, who Lily has had since she was eleven; she hopes her next achievement will be to join the Decade

Team, a group of horse and rider teams who have competed in at least one, fifty-mile ride per year for ten years; and

WHEREAS, Lily's other future goals include a desire to compete in a 100-mile endurance race, which must be completed within twenty-four hours; and

WHEREAS, outside of racing, Lily still takes a deep interest in horses; she placed first in the state in the last two years in the 4-H hippology contest, which tests students' knowledge of horse-related issues, and this past summer she published the result of a three-year science fair project on endurance horses; and

WHEREAS, although only a freshman in high school, Lily is already looking towards the future and has expressed that she enjoys science and may want to become a school teacher; regardless of her career path, she intends to keep horses central in her life; and

WHEREAS, displaying great sportsmanship and outstanding character, Lily Turaski has conducted herself in a manner appropriate to the integrity of the State of Tennessee, and it is wholly fitting that she be recognized by this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate and honor Lily Turaski of Blount County upon becoming the 2013 National Champion Junior Rider for endurance racing and wish her every success for the future.

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