

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 630

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to commend and congratulate composer Ellen Reid, recipient of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in music.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly recognize those accomplished Tennesseans who are wholly devoted to their creative endeavors, thereby enriching the lives of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Oak Ridge native Ellen Reid, who, at only thirty-six years of age, has won the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in music; and

WHEREAS, the work that garnered the Pulitzer Prize was Ms. Reid's first opera, created in conjunction with Roxie Perkins and titled *p r i s m*; it has been described as "a haunting, kaleidoscopic new work of opera-theatre that traverses the elasticity of memory after trauma" in which "composer Ellen Reid's music erupts with color, using orchestral manipulation to deliver an eerily distinct sonic world"; and

WHEREAS, *p r i s m*, which addresses the psychological effects of surviving sexual assault, opened to universal acclaim in sold-out runs on both the east and west coasts, as part of New York's Prototype Festival and the LA Opera's Off Grand series; and

WHEREAS, the Pulitzer organization described *p r i s m* as "a bold new work that uses sophisticated vocal writing and striking instrumental timbres to confront difficult subject matter"; and

WHEREAS, a 2001 graduate of Oak Ridge High School, Ellen Reid received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Columbia University and her Master of Arts from California Institute of the Arts; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Reid is a composer and sound artist whose breadth of work spans opera, sound design, film scoring, and ensemble and choral writing; she recently became the first composer to have works premiered by Los Angeles's four leading musical institutions—the Los Angeles Philharmonic, LA Opera, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and Los Angeles Master Chorale—all within one year; and

WHEREAS, Ellen Reid has been making a name for herself for some time; in 2013, she received accolades in *USA Today* and recognition for one of the best plays of the year in the *L.A. Times* for *Prometheus Bound*, an outdoor theater production in the Getty Villa in Malibu; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, she was listed as one of *Musical America's* 30 Professionals of the Year for her work with Luna Composition Lab, a mentorship program for young composers that she co-founded with composer Missy Mazzoli; and

WHEREAS, Ellen Reid currently divides her time between Los Angeles and New York City; her upcoming professional highlights include a new work for the New York Philharmonic and a collaboration with Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller on a sound installation for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Walt Disney Concert Hall. In the fall of 2019, she will begin a three-year appointment as creative advisor and composer-in-residence for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Reid's accomplishments have brought pride to her home State, and she is most worthy of our approbation; 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 congratulate composer Ellen Reid, winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in music, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success in the years to come.

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