

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 903

By Roberts

A RESOLUTION commemorating March 10, 2024, as Josephine Groves Holloway Day in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor the memory of those venerable community leaders who were wholly devoted to enhancing the quality of life for their fellow citizens and improving and enriching their community; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person was Josephine Groves Holloway, who was instrumental in desegregating the Girl Scout Council of Middle Tennessee, known today as Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee, and continues to serve as a role model for girls across the nation; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, Josephine Holloway established Troop 200—Nashville's first Black Girl Scout troop; she was also the first Black professional Girl Scout employee in Middle Tennessee, serving as a field advisor, district director, and camp director; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Holloway's perseverance to establish Girl Scouting opportunities for Black girls spanned years before Troop 200's debut; in 1924, she attended a training session in Nashville with Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low and was commissioned as a captain (leader) and authorized to form troops for Black girls at the Bethlehem Center; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the Bethlehem Center, she formed unofficial troops in the 1930s and used a copy of the Girl Scout handbook to lead her troops; these troops were finally officially recognized and registered in 1943; and

WHEREAS, when Josephine Holloway's requests to start official troops for Black girls were finally granted, the momentum led to thirteen new troops in eighteen months; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Camp Holloway, named after Josephine Groves Holloway, opened its grounds in Millersville; and

WHEREAS, through her many contributions to Girl Scouting and the advancement of civil rights, Josephine Holloway distinguished herself as a citizen of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join with citizens from across this State in commemorating March 10, 2024, as Josephine Groves Holloway Day in Tennessee, as we remember and celebrate her remarkable success in breaking down barriers and expanding opportunities for all.

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.