

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1087

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Elizabeth B. Brown on the occasion of her eightieth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth B. Brown will celebrate her eightieth birthday this year, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, a native of Virginia, Mrs. Brown received a bachelor's degree from Emory and Henry College and a master's degree in education-psychology and counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her extensive career, she has taught at all levels, from kindergarten, elementary school, and special needs classes to high school and medical school; in 1970, she founded the Creative Preschool Kindergarten in Boston, Massachusetts, which continues to boast a three-year waiting list for admission; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, Elizabeth Brown, alongside Dr. Paul E. Brown, Jr., and Dr. Mae Votow, began a new program helping new medical students at the James H. Quillen College of Medicine with issues surrounding grief and patient care; she currently serves as a clinical professor of medicine for the medical school and teaches physician assistant students at Emory and Henry University and Milligan University; and

WHEREAS, a respected practitioner and prolific author, Elizabeth Brown is the author of six books: *Sunrise Tomorrow*, which was given to every police chaplain in the United States; *Surviving the Loss of a Child*; *The Joy Choice*; *Living Successfully with Screwed Up People*, a top-selling counseling book; *Surviving the Death of a Child: Hope for Grieving Parents*; *Working*

*Successfully with Screwed Up People; and Standing Up When the World Falls Down Around You; and*

WHEREAS Mrs. Brown is also a frequent speaker on radio and television and has served as keynote speaker at seminars and conferences across the country, including those presented by Hospice, Contact, Christian Women's Clubs, Widowed Persons Associations, and Compassionate Friends, Christian Medical and Dental Society, Good News, and the Police Chaplains Tennessee Association; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Brown has served her community through various leadership roles on community boards for organizations such as the Johnson City Symphony, Johnson City Medical Center's Children's Hospital, Tri-County Medical Association, Massengill Pharmacy Company Drug Review Board, and East Tennessee State University (ETSU) Foundation, President's Circle, and Board of Visitors; and

WHEREAS, she is a charter/founding member of Hands On! Children's Museum, ETSU's Friends of Music, Abortion Alternatives/Crisis Pregnancy Center, Medics Care International, Get Ready National Youth leaders, and the Children's Advocacy Center, and she has served as board chairman and interim president of Holston Home for Children in Greeneville; and

WHEREAS, a woman of faith, Mrs. Brown has served with the Mission Society for the United Methodist Church and Yale's Overseas Ministry Study Center, and she has served in various leadership roles in her church; for the past thirty-five years, she and her husband have led a Sunday school class, renamed Brown Fellowship in their honor; and

WHEREAS, often duly honored for her good work, Elizabeth Brown is the recipient of the DeFriece Humanitarian Faith Award, Tri-Cities Benefactor Award, Health Care Heroes Distinguished Servicer Award and Cup of Kindness Award, Leaders in Christian Service Award, and Tribute to Women Award, and she has been named a Lifetime Member for excellence in

writing and service by Who's Who in American Women and knighted as Dame in the Sovereign Military Order Knights of Templar; and

WHEREAS, above all, Mrs. Brown is wholly devoted to her family; she and her husband, Paul E. Brown, Jr., M.D., have been married since August 1, 1964, and share four children, Kim Degennaro, Paul Brown III, LeeAnne Brown, and Brad Brown; eight grandchildren, Lauren, Pelton, Ashley Wiley, Michael Degennaro, Kaylee Degennaro, Paul Brown IV, Mara Kathryn Brown, Elizabeth Brown, and Brantley Brown; one great-granddaughter, Haven Pelton; and three step-grandchildren, Tyler, Sophia, and Natalie Degennaro; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Brown is committed to the noble precepts of public service, and as she enters her ninth decade, she continues to be a beloved mentor and leader, highly regarded by all who are fortunate to have her friendship and counsel; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; 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 recognize and honor Elizabeth B. Brown on the celebration of her eightieth birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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.