

SENATE RESOLUTION 59

By Tate

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Valerie Glover Garza of Tokyo, Japan.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Valerie Glover Garza; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Garza 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, Valerie Garza earned her bachelor's degree in social work and her elementary certification from Oral Roberts University; and

WHEREAS, after serving with acumen and alacrity as a social worker, Mrs. Garza began her estimable career with the Department of Defense Dependents Schools as a kindergarten teacher at Arnn Elementary School in Japan in 2003, before becoming a first grade teacher, the position in which she served until her passing; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Garza graciously donated her time and energies to numerous scholastic activities, including the Children's Theater, Multicultural Day, and Read Across America Day, at which she dressed up as a storybook character; and

WHEREAS, her generous nature extended well beyond the school's walls; Valerie Garza and her husband, Alex, were so moved by the tragic aftermath of the historic 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, they established a charitable foundation, the Isaiah Institute, to provide humanitarian aid, educational and social services, and container buildings to refugee camps in remote areas of Sri Lanka; and

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

WHEREAS, Mrs. Garza is survived by her husband of eleven years, Alex; their two-year-old son, Israel; her parents, Charles and Deborah Glover; and her siblings, Kimberly, Joanna, and David; and

WHEREAS, Valerie Garza 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, that we honor the memory of Valerie Glover Garza, 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. Garza.

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