

SENATE RESOLUTION 63

By Niceley

A RESOULTION to recognize Donna Joy Vance.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those Tennesseans who stand as inspirations to us all; and

WHEREAS, one intrepid young woman who has transcended medical certainties of a terminal nature and now enjoys a full life, living in joy and glee; her name is Donna Joy Vance, she resides in Rogersville, and she is a genuine walking, talking medical miracle; and

WHEREAS, Donna Vance was diagnosed in utero as having hydrocephalus, and her parents, Mark and Lori Vance, learned of the presence of the fatal brain disorder holoprosencephally and the complications brought on by ruinous damage and deformation of the brain stem at the time of her birth; and

WHEREAS, despite an devastating medical prognosis for their newborn child, Mark and Lori decided to nurture Donna Joy through all that she would face; and

WHEREAS, the child that doctors said would never live is now a pretty, vibrant young woman who goes to school, loves being on the computer, and, like any other sibling, argues with her sisters over clothes. Donna Joy Vance is a walking, talking miracle, a living example of God's grace and the power of a mother's love; and

WHEREAS, today, Donna Joy attends Cherokee High School in Hawkins County, exhibits great athletic prowess in the Special Olympics, and loves and enjoys her friends, her church, and her family very much, and she holds high aspirations of becoming an actress and someday becoming a star; and

WHEREAS, Donna Joy's life is a testament to the strength and resolve of the human spirit; the normalcy with which she lives each day is the miraculous accomplishment of her

vivacious spirit and pure zest for life, and it is fitting that this legislative body recognize her,;
now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize Donna Joy Vance as a young hero who is super in many, many ways, extending our best wishes to her for her continued health and well-being and applauding this young woman for being an inspiration to us all.

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