

SENATE RESOLUTION 171

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Dorothy Patterson on her service to the State of Tennessee on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Patterson of Claiborne County is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for thirty-one years with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development for the State of Tennessee, sharing her thirty-five years of experience with youth and adult training programs; and

WHEREAS, bringing an end to her illustrious career with the State of Tennessee, Dorothy Patterson recently took a much deserved retirement after serving the citizens of Tennessee with acumen and alacrity for more than three decades; and

WHEREAS, a 1961 graduate of Claiborne County High School, Dorothy "Dot" Patterson obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration at Lincoln Memorial University in 1980, after attending night classes for eight years while working full-time and handling the added responsibilities and special challenges of being a single parent; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Margineal Ramsey Eldridge and the late Arch Eldridge, Dot Patterson undoubtedly learned the value of education and perseverance from the example set by her mother, who at the age of sixty-eight, took classes in order to pass the test and subsequently obtain her General Equivalency Diploma; and

WHEREAS, drawn to serving others as a career choice, Dot Patterson began her career as a teacher's aide and substitute teacher at Macon Bethel School and worked as a bookkeeper/secretary for Neighborhood Youth Corp as well as a Junior Counselor for Summer Youth and In-School Youth; and

WHEREAS, joining the State of Tennessee as an Interviewer/Supervisor with the Department of Employment Security, Dot Patterson has served as an Interviewer Supervisor/Manager with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; and

WHEREAS, she quickly earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and superiors for her positive attitude, caring spirit, and dedication, as she has helped her fellow citizens to both locate and secure employment as well as receive training to expand their job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, offering her boundless enthusiasm, tireless work ethic, and deep belief in the unquestionable value of an education, Dot Patterson was chosen to represent the First Civil District on the Claiborne County School Board for the First Civil District and ably served her fellow citizens and the children of Claiborne County; and

WHEREAS, involved in her community, Ms. Patterson is a member and former president of the Claiborne County Chamber of Commerce, a volunteer tutor with the Adult Education Tutoring Program, and a longtime member of the Claiborne County Adult Education Literacy Advisory Committee and the Norris Lake State Employees Association, which she served as president in 1989-90; and

WHEREAS, a winner of the Gonia Award for Regional Leadership, Dot Patterson was a member of the Claiborne County Leadership Class of 2000 and the East Tennessee Regional Leadership Class of 2007 and now holds membership in the East Tennessee Regional Leadership Alumni Association, the Claiborne County Leadership Alumni Association, and on the Claiborne County Leadership Scholarship Board; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Patterson is the proud mother of two successful children – Lisa, who earned a Business Administration degree at Lincoln Memorial University like her mother, and Mark, who received a degree in Computer Science from Chestnut Hill College and is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree; and

WHEREAS, Dot Patterson exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Dorothy Patterson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues, her supervisors, and the citizens of the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Dorothy Patterson upon more than thirty years of exemplary service to the State of Tennessee, salute her commitment to the highest precepts of public service, and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

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