

SENATE RESOLUTION 186

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Esther Smith Gurkin of Moscow.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Esther Smith Gurkin; and

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin 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, born in Savannah on May 21, 1926, Esther Gurkin was the daughter of Lawrence L. Smith and Mamie Young Smith; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gurkin was a graduate of Central High School in Savannah and Nashville Business College and Peabody College of Education in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, an officer at Fayette Cares, Esther Gurkin served with acumen and alacrity for fifty-three years in the Tennessee Department of Human Services in Fayette and Haywood counties, retiring as the manager; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gurkin was an active and devout member of Moscow United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for many years as a youth group leader; and

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

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin married J.C. Gurkin on July 27, 1951, and they shared forty-seven years of marriage before his passing; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gurkin is survived by her two sons, J. Whitten Gurkin and Daniel Smith Gurkin; granddaughter, Whitley Blair Gurkin; siblings Doris Hudson, Brother Frank Smith, and Lawrence L. Smith, Jr.; and a host of nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Ruby Smith Yeiser and Zubia Smith Parrott; and

WHEREAS, Esther Gurkin 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 the members of this legislative body 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 TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Esther Smith Gurkin, 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. Gurkin.

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