



State of Tennessee

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 331

By Senators Ketron, Henry, Beavers, Faulk, Kelsey, Herron

and

Representatives Naifeh, Armstrong, Bass, Harry Brooks, Kevin Brooks, Brown, Campbell, Camper, Carr, Casada, Cobb, Coley, Cooper, Curtiss, Dean, John DeBerry, Lois DeBerry, Dennis, Dunn, Elam, Eldridge, Evans, Faison, Favors, Fitzhugh, Floyd, Ford, Forgety, Gilmore, Gotto, Halford, Hall, Hardaway, Harmon, Harrison, Haynes, Hensley, Hill, Curtis Johnson, Phillip Johnson, Jones, Keisling, Kernell, Lollar, Lundberg, Maggart, Marsh, Matheny, Matlock, McCormick, McDaniel, McDonald, McManus, Don Miller, Larry Miller, Montgomery, Moore, Niceley, Odom, Parkinson, Pitts, Powers, Pruitt, Ramsey, Rich, Richardson, Roach, Sanderson, Sargent, Sexton, Shaw, Shepard, Shipley, Sontany, Sparks, Stewart, Swann, Tidwell, Tindell, Todd, Towns, Johnnie Turner, Mike Turner, Watson, Weaver, White, Kent Williams, Ryan Williams, Windle, Wirgau, Womick, Madam Speaker Harwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Linda W. Knight and Dianne F. Neal for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee as members of the Tennessee Ethics Commission.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves in public service and of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Linda W. Knight and Dianne F. Neal are two such noteworthy persons; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly enacted the "Comprehensive Governmental Ethics Reform Act of 2006," 2006 Pub. Acts Ch. 1 (Ethics Reform Act); and

WHEREAS, Section 26 of the Ethics Reform Act amended Tennessee Code Annotated by substituting a new Part 1 for Title 3, Chapter 6 of the Code, which amendment is designated the "Tennessee Ethics Commission Act of 2006" (Ethics Commission Act); and

WHEREAS, Section 3-6-103(a) created the Tennessee Ethics Commission, composed of six (6) members, and delineated the qualifications for appointment to membership on the Commission, including the requirement that each member "[b]e a person of high ethical standards who has an active interest in promoting ethics in government"; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-6-103(c)(1) provides that a Democrat and a Republican are to be appointed to the Commission by each of the Governor, the Speaker of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with the Ethics Commission Act, Speaker Jimmy Naifeh timely appointed Ms. Knight as the House Republican appointee and Ms. Neal as the House Democratic appointee, and they were confirmed by unanimous vote of the House of Representatives on April 19, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Section 3-6-103(d) provides that the terms of the Commissioners are four (4) years, with the initial terms commencing January 1, 2007, but that the terms of the initial appointees were to be staggered, with the House appointees to be the only initial appointees to a full four-year term; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight and Ms. Neal have completed their terms of service on the Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate for this General Assembly to commend them and express its appreciation for their service; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight and Ms. Neal performed their service as Commissioners in an exemplary manner, devoting inordinate time to their duties; regularly attending meetings; diligently preparing; thoroughly reviewing documents; actively participating in debates; scrutinizing the

performance of the Commission's paid staff; setting rigorous standards for the correctness of the Commission's actions, decisions and documents; adhering to time-honored rules of statutory construction in following the legislative intent of the relevant statutes and insisting that the Commission not exceed its jurisdiction, at times under difficult circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight and Ms. Neal at all times conducted themselves in accordance with the highest standards of integrity and fairness to all who came before the Commission and never engaged in partisanship in word or in deed; and

WHEREAS, they played a vital role in the shaping of the Commission and the administration, interpretation and enforcement of the Ethics Reform Act, including the Ethics Commission Act, as well as all other statutes that affected the Commission's procedures, setting a high example for future Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Knight and Ms. Neal have long been active in business and community affairs and have proven themselves to be exemplary public servants and consummate professionals, who have worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens in numerous capacities and have demonstrated themselves at all times to "be person[s] of high ethical standards who [have] an active interest in promoting ethics in government"; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Ms. Knight and Ms. Neal for their dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Linda W. Knight and Dianne F. Neal for their meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, applaud them for helping make this State a better place for all its citizens, and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

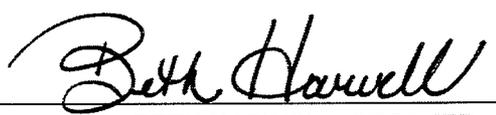
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: May 18, 2011



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 24th day of May 2011



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR