

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

By Cepicky

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Gail Gilliam for her exemplary service to the American Legion Auxiliary and this State.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Gail Gilliam is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, through her abiding commitment to honor our nation's veterans and pass on respect for our country and our nation's flag, Ms. Gilliam has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community and this State; and

WHEREAS, Gail Gilliam has served the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), Unit 19 in Columbia with the utmost integrity and honor in several positions, including serving for four years as secretary, one year as chaplain, two years as vice president, and one year as president; she also served a two-year term as the Americanism Chairman for the Tennessee Department of the ALA; and

WHEREAS, as the ALA's Americanism Chairman for Unit 19, Ms. Gilliam organized a host of Americanism activities during her nearly five-year tenure, including initiating the annual 9-11 Freedom Walk in Columbia; planning annual flag burning ceremonies held every Flag Day at Post 19; distributing flags for veterans' graves in a number of Maury County cemeteries; distributing outdoor and classroom flags to all Maury County schools and replacing them as needed; conducting flag history and flag etiquette programs for individual elementary

classrooms and judging Americanism essays from 3rd to 12th grades in the Maury County School System; and presenting Americanism medals and certificates to a senior girl in each Maury County high school; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Gail Gilliam initiated and maintained a Blue Star Banner program and distributed Blue Star Banners and certificates to relatives of active duty service members, and she started a program to present an ROTC medal and certificate to a senior female cadet in the Central High School NJROTC and the Spring Hill High School ROTC; and

WHEREAS, her exemplary service to the ALA and her untiring commitment to serving the needs of her community have manifested in every position she has held in the American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 19, of which her service also includes tenures as legislation chairman, education chairman, and community service chairman; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gilliam has devoted countless hours to the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program, guiding young women through the complexities of the delegate selection process; and

WHEREAS, ALA members such as Gail Gilliam provide an invaluable service to veterans and active duty military members and their families, helping to influence considerable social change in America, securing countless benefits for veterans, helping military families through transition, and producing many important programs for our nation's youth; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Gilliam is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, through her tireless efforts to ensure that the selfless devotion to duty of those who have risked their lives to safeguard the freedoms guaranteed to all citizens of these United States will never be forgotten, Gail Gilliam has distinguished herself as a true patriot; and

WHEREAS, Gail Gilliam is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Gail Gilliam for the many years of dedicated service she has given to the American Legion Auxiliary and the good people of Maury County and this State. We applaud her for giving back to her community in so many ways and wish Ms. Gilliam all the best 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.