

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 957

By Hurt

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Melissa Ryckman on her receipt of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have dedicated their time and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1.3 million Tennessee volunteers give over 99 million hours of community service, contributing \$2.6 billion to Tennessee's economy; and

WHEREAS, these volunteers are the backbone of our communities, and by donating their time and talents to fulfill needs that would otherwise go unmet, they embody the spirit of giving; and

WHEREAS, Melissa Ryckman is one such exemplary person, who is a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award in recognition of her laudable commitment to her community; and

WHEREAS, through her volunteerism, Ms. Ryckman has addressed a variety of needs in multiple communities; her assistance in gathering resources and essential supplies has included making toiletry bags for the homeless, beginning a clean clothes program to help individuals wash and dry clothes free of charge, providing clothes for local inmates who are being released or attending rehab, giving out coats, and starting a school uniform program for students in need; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ryckman has also been an immense help in creating lasting change through helpful community programs; she began weekly AA and Al-Anon meetings through the Helping Hand of Humboldt, started a weekly online auction to fund those going through food

insecurity, and became an ambassador to help individuals return to work after losing jobs due to workplace injuries; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ryckman is a model citizen; her commitment to helping others through volunteerism epitomizes the spirit of the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Melissa Ryckman for her outstanding community leadership, congratulate her as an esteemed recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Stars Award, and extend to her 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.