

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1027

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jillian Ludwig.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely and tragic death of Jillian Ludwig; and

WHEREAS, Jillian Ludwig was an extraordinary young woman whose radiance and talent were only surpassed by her kindness and consideration for others and the joy she brought to all who had the privilege of knowing her; and

WHEREAS, a 2023 graduate of Wall High School in Wall Township, New Jersey, Jillian Ludwig moved 900 miles from home to pursue her love of music at Belmont University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ludwig was a freshman majoring in music business at Belmont, and from a very young age, she found and gave joy through music; while starting with vocal instruction, she learned to play various instruments, including saxophone, oboe, piano, guitar and bass; and

WHEREAS, she sang and served as a cantor for years at St. Mark's Church in Sea Girt, New Jersey, and also sang and played guitar with the music ensemble at the Church of Brielle; and

WHEREAS, Jillian Ludwig was very involved with Lakehouse Music Academy in Asbury Park, New Jersey, singing and playing guitar and bass with multiple bands as well as teaching young music students; she also played both solo and with her bands in many local spots around her hometown, including The Stone Pony, Asbury Lanes, and Count Basie Theater, along with some gigs in New York City; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to helping others, in 2022, Ms. Ludwig initiated a service project called Playing it Forward, in which she would play her music at local establishments and events and donate all tips and proceeds to various organizations that help other musicians in need, including children with inadequate access to instruments and music education; and

WHEREAS, Jillian Ludwig was a young woman full of enthusiasm, compassion, and love; in her short eighteen years, she made a remarkable impact on countless people, and her spirit will continue to bring light to the world; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ludwig is survived by her devoted parents, Matt and Jessica Ludwig; her brothers, Shane and Trevor; maternal grandmother, Patti Byrne; maternal grandparents, Ray and Peggy Thorn; and paternal grandmother, Rosemary Ludwig; she is also survived by her aunt and uncle, Caitlin and Joe Accurso; cousins, Christopher and Andrew; uncle, Rich Ludwig; uncle and aunt, Michael and Nancy Ludwig; cousins, Brendan and Ryan; aunt, Christine Blocklinger; uncle and aunt, John and Robin Ludwig; cousin, Zara; uncle, Kevin Ludwig; and her loving boyfriend, Thomas Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather, Richard Ludwig; and her uncles, Mark Blocklinger and Dennis Ludwig; and

WHEREAS, Jillian Ludwig leaves behind indelible memories of her kind and generous nature, her vibrant personality and ever-present smile, and a passion for life rarely equaled; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the life of this exceptional young woman who has passed from our lives in the full bloom of youth and promise; 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 the memory of Jillian Ludwig, 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 deepest sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Ludwig.

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.