

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 54

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Una Wright Coffman, the first woman to serve on the Roane County Commission.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those citizens who performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Una Wright Coffman is one such estimable individual, who demonstrated the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity in her service to the citizens of Roane County in various capacities, including as a member of the Roane County Commission; and

WHEREAS, a true trailblazer in her community, Mrs. Coffman was the first woman elected to the Roane County Commission; she served that august body for sixteen years, from 1990 to 2006, the last ten years of which she held the position of chair; and

WHEREAS, born in Glenmary, Una Coffman was the sixth of Fred and Dottie Wright's seven children; she moved to South Harriman with her family as a child and attended South Harriman Elementary School and South Harriman High School, where she played basketball for four years; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Mrs. Coffman was a Torchbearer and the president of the Independent Student Association; it was while she was at the university that she met her husband, Don Coffman, with whom she has two beloved children; and

WHEREAS, the Coffmans relocated several times before finally moving back to the Kingston area, where Mrs. Coffman worked at various jobs, foremost among them the position of social worker at Harriman County Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Una Coffman distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order throughout her exemplary tenure as a member and the chair of the Roane County Commission, inspiring those in her community and paving the way for the women who would serve after her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Coffman proved herself to be wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized for her honorable and astute service to the citizens of this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Una Wright Coffman, the first woman elected to the Roane County Commission, extending our deepest gratitude for her barrier-breaking public service.

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.