

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 56

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Anita Flynn on her receipt of the Healthcare Hero Award.

WHEREAS, over much of its history, Tennessee has been known as the Volunteer State. It has been the home of so many valiant men, women, and children who have responded with great courage and strength of character in times of trouble and adversity; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding Tennessean is Anita Flynn, a registered nurse who works at Parkridge Medical Center in Chattanooga as a day surgery nurse. She is the 2012 recipient of the Healthcare Hero Award from the Tennessee Hospital Association; and

WHEREAS, for twenty years, Ms. Flynn has offered her considerable services as a volunteer with the Ider (Alabama) Rescue Squad; she quickly answered the unit's call without reservation when tornadoes struck the neighboring community and medical assistance was needed to treat the large number of injuries; and

WHEREAS, with wounded survivors and casualties pouring into the rescue squad facility, Anita Flynn responded to the maelstrom and rapidly assisted and triaged patients, cleaning out ambulances and providing other aid as needed; and

WHEREAS, despite hearing that another tornado was headed their way, Ms. Flynn and her colleagues continued to care for the wounded and account for the dead; and

WHEREAS, as the nearby medical facilities became overwhelmed with the number of casualties, Anita Flynn and her colleagues then transported patients sixty miles to Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga in a severely storm-damaged ambulance; and

WHEREAS, Anita Flynn then requested a month of unpaid leave from her nursing job at Parkridge Medical Center so she could work in her community as it recovered from the devastating storm; her many efforts included mowing lawns, removing debris, and assisting in whatever way she could; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Flynn clearly demonstrated bravery in answering the call to duty in the best tradition of the nursing profession, and her courage and strength of character are clearly deserving of special recognition and praise; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Anita Flynn of Chattanooga for her outstanding demonstration of compassion, resourcefulness, and presence of mind while responding in the aftermath of the Southeast Tennessee area tornadoes of 2011 as we join with her family, her colleagues, and the citizens of the State of Tennessee in expressing our admiration and appreciation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we offer our best wishes to Ms. Flynn and her family for every success and happiness in the future.

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