



State of Tennessee

SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

By Representative Cepicky

and

Senator Hensley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Annie McGill Hardison of Columbia.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Annie McGill Hardison; and

WHEREAS, Annie Hardison was a true humanitarian who worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hardison was born to George and Lessie Knox McGill in February 1939 in Columbia; after graduating from Carver Smith High School, she attended Columbia State Community College before transferring to Middle Tennessee State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work; and

WHEREAS, just as she had done in her volunteer efforts throughout the years, Ms. Hardison dedicated her professional career to serving those in need and at risk; she worked for many years with the State of Tennessee as a juvenile probation officer, taking her much-deserved retirement in 2008; and

WHEREAS, an invaluable community leader, Annie Hardison played an integral role in several organizations throughout her community. For more than fifteen years, she volunteered with Maury County Concerned Citizens, helping organize neighborhood watches in areas where drive-by shootings and open drug deals were prevalent, assisting parents who accompany their children to court hearings, taking part in meetings at local schools, and serving as a voice for the elderly regarding their concerns for the community; and

WHEREAS, Annie Hardison was also a founder and board member of People Helping People Together, an organization that assists low-income, elderly neighbors who have homes in need of repair, ensuring that their homes are safe, warm, and dry; as director of the selection committee for the organization, she made home visits to assess individual needs and distribute applications; and

WHEREAS, as a member and community liaison with the NAACP, Ms. Hardison strove to ensure that the organization teamed with other community groups to meet the needs of the poor and disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, Annie Hardison was a stalwart advocate for those struggling with alcoholism and addiction; the first African-American woman to attend Cumberland Heights Recovery Center, she sponsored hundreds of young women in Maury County, who in turn have gone on to sponsor others. Many times, she opened her door to provide respite to those in need of a safe, drug-free environment, and she was an esteemed volunteer at The Discipleship House in Mt. Pleasant and Mercy House; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hardison recently helped plant and start a recovery church in Columbia, the Fresh Start Recovery Church; and

WHEREAS, frequently honored for her good work, Ms. Hardison was a recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Award, was named a Tennessee Ambassador of Goodwill, and received the 2012 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award, given by the NAACP, for her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life in her community; and

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WHEREAS, an accomplished author, prolific poet, and playwright, Annie Hardison was also a popular Christian motivational speaker who spoke to groups all over Tennessee and throughout a number of other states as well; and

WHEREAS, a member of Carmack Boulevard Church of Christ, Annie Hardison was a woman of devout faith; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to her family, Annie Hardison was the proud mother of two children, Reginia Hardison Wells and Kevin Goff, and the adoring grandmother of three granddaughters: Davena Hardison, Anndreia Hardison, and Shericka Nicholson; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Hardison leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Annie McGill Hardison, 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 sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Hardison.

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.

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ADOPTED: August 12, 2020



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 17th day of August 2020



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR