



State of Tennessee

FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

By Massey, Briggs, Robinson, Rose

A RESOLUTION to commend and congratulate Brianna Mason, Miss Tennessee 2019.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should specially recognize those emerging community leaders who strive to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens while bringing beauty, grace, and purpose to all their endeavors; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Brianna Mason, who was recently crowned Miss Tennessee 2019, a most befitting honor, as it recognizes her dedication to excellence and her devotion to serving her community; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Competition took place in Knoxville on June 29, 2019; the evening featured twenty-seven candidates from across the state, all vying to advance to the iconic Miss America pageant; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mason, who entered in the contest with the title of Miss Greene County, was ultimately crowned the victor—a historic moment, as she is the first African American to be named Miss Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 graduate of Ravenwood High School in Brentwood, Brianna Mason attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UT), where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in 2017 and her Master of Science degree in Elementary Education in 2018; and

WHEREAS, during her time at UT, she was a Charles Lattimore Graduate Scholar with the College of Health, Education, and Human Sciences and part of the selective Urban Multicultural Education Cohort; she also received the Russell E. Leed and the Alex Haley scholarships; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mason is continuing her family's legacy as an educator; she currently teaches first grade at Hobgood Elementary School in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, Brianna Mason's social impact initiative is close to her heart; in an effort to advocate for a close family friend, she founded Advocates for Autism, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to raising autism awareness through information, collaboration, and celebration of individuals and families affected by autism; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Mason will receive \$15,000 as part of her winning title; for the year of her reign, she will travel around the State serving as the official spokesperson for Reading Literacy and the Whole Child Initiative with the Tennessee Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, she will also be the state representative for the Miss America organization's Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Hospitals partnership, serving all five of Tennessee's CMN Hospitals; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2019, Ms. Mason will ably represent the Volunteer State in the Miss America competition; and

WHEREAS, Brianna Mason is one of Tennessee's most noteworthy citizens, and it is most fitting that we honor her at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we commend and congratulate Brianna Mason

upon being crowned Miss Tennessee 2019, extending our best wishes to her during her reign and wishing her much success as she represents Tennessee in the Miss America pageant.

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

ADOPTED: August 23, 2019



**RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE**