

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 301

By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to commend Randall Ross Nichols for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Randall Ross Nichols of Nashville is one such admirable person, who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Ross Nichols distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order throughout his tenure as executive assistant to the Democratic Caucus chairman of the House of Representatives, serving from November 2008 to February 2015; and

WHEREAS, he also held the position of press secretary to Democratic Caucus Chairmen Mike Turner and Mike Stewart and always performed his many duties with insight and decorum; and

WHEREAS, after earning a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 2003, Ross Nichols began his professional career as a clerk for the House of Representatives during the 103rd General Assembly, estimably serving as a clerk for the Conservation and Environment Committee as well as the Agriculture Committee, and as chief clerk for the Transportation Committee; and

WHEREAS, from January 2005 to April 2006, Mr. Nichols served with distinction as administrative assistant to the assistant commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Insurance, Regulatory Boards Division, holding this post until accepting the position of assistant to the governor for Field Advance in the Office of Governor Phil Bredesen, in which capacity he served from April 2006 to February 2007; and

WHEREAS, Ross Nichols's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, he has donated his time and energies as a mentor for tnAchieves, and as a member of Hands On Nashville and Team in Training; and

WHEREAS, a consummate athlete, Ross Nichols recently completed the Ironman Triathlon in Chattanooga, posting an impressive time of 12:55:18, and has been the pace group leader for Fleet Feet Marathon Training for the past four years; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, Mr. Nichols epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Ross Nichols is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized for his exemplary service to this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Randall Ross Nichols for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee, applaud his dedication to excellence, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

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