

House Resolution No. 551

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives welcome with pleasure the opportunity to recognize a remarkable individual whose efforts and accomplishments have made her a source of inspiration for all those around her; and

Whereas, Wilma Bedell Ball has distinguished herself in many ways, most recently as the eighty-five-year-old Administrator of Riverways Manor in Van Buren, Missouri; and

Whereas, born near Great Falls, Montana, on January 5, 1917, Wilma grew up on a farm located on the Current River between Van Buren and Doniphan, Missouri; attended a one-room school house in the Ozarks before graduating from Doniphan High School; and married the man of her dreams, Jasper P. Bedell, with whom she raised four sons, Allen, Richard, Don, and Tom; and

Whereas, Wilma taught at the one-room school house she attended and then embarked upon a career in Louisiana, where she served as an Elementary School Principal in Evangeline Parish for eight years, was honored as an Outstanding Lady - State of Louisiana, and oversaw Mardi Gras balls and parades; and

Whereas, Wilma provided outstanding leadership as Executive Director and General Manager of the Southwest Louisiana Fair Association from 1949 to 1962, and entered the insurance business as a partner and manager of an agency in Eunice; and

Whereas, after the death of her first husband, Wilma Bedell returned to Missouri, where she found love the second time when she married Kelly Ball, with whom she settled down in Poplar Bluff and became a high school English teacher in 1967; and

Whereas, Wilma Ball assumed responsibility as a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator in 1971 and served as Administrator for the Clark's Mountain Nursing Home in Piedmont prior to accepting her current position at Riverways Manor:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, join unanimously in commending and applauding Wilma Ball for her admirable efforts which have made her a model for all fellow citizens and in further extending to her our very best wishes for continued success; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Wilma Bedell Ball, as a measure of our esteem for her.

Offered by _____
 Representative Don Koller
 District No. 153

I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 551, adopted March 5, 2002.

Jim Kreider, Speaker

