

Whereas, it is with tremendous respect and admiration that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives take particular note of those Show-Me State residents who have overcome special problems in life and who serve as heroic examples for us all; and

Whereas, Ryan Capps of Ozark, Missouri, was diagnosed with spina bifida at birth, a common birth defect which strikes one in one thousand babies and which can cause physical disability and long-term health problems; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2003, fourteen-year-old Ryan Capps will travel to Washington, D.C., to meet with President George W. Bush and to discuss children's health issues as Missouri's Champion Child for Children's Miracle Network; and

Whereas, selected for this national recognition by the Foresters Champions Across America program, Ryan Capps will continue on to Orlando, Florida, which is home to Walt Disney World and the location of the 2003 Children's Miracle Network Telethon; and

Whereas, Ryan Capps is one of sixty-three children and their families chosen to serve as Foresters Champions from all across the United States and Canada in an effort to raise awareness of children's hospitals such as Cox Medical Center South in Springfield; and

Whereas, Children's Miracle Network is an alliance of premier children's hospitals which spotlight the exceptional battles against illness and injury that are waged every day by children like Ryan; and

Whereas, Ryan Capps is to be commended for her positive attitude in the face of a difficult medical condition and for her willingness to serve on the front lines of fund-raising efforts designed to support research and treatments to ameliorate or eliminate the effects of birth defects in the future:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the selection of Ryan Capps as the state of Missouri Champion Child for Children's Miracle Network and to convey to her this legislative body's most heartfelt congratulations and best wishes as she serves as a splendid example of undaunted courage and determination with the Foresters Champions Across America program; 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 in honor of Ryan Capps of Ozark, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Roy Holand
District No. 135

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 422, adopted February 18, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker