

House Resolution No. 3269

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events which take place in local communities and neighborhoods in the Show-Me State; and

Whereas, the residents of Chesterfield in the Saint Louis metropolitan area will observe Minnie Vautrin Day on September 27, 2004, in honor of a true American heroine; and

Whereas, born on September 27, 1886, in Secor, Illinois, Minnie Vautrin died on May 14, 1941, at the age of fifty-four; and

Whereas, Minnie Vautrin went to China in 1912 as a missionary and educator who served for twenty years on the faculty at Ginling College in Nanking promoting women's education and helping the poor; and

Whereas, for many months during World War II, Minnie Vautrin risked her life to shelter and protect more than ten thousand women and girl refugees on her campus from the atrocities which are known today as the 1937 Rape of Nanking; and

Whereas, in memory of her valiant stand against Japanese invaders, Minnie Vautrin is honored and remembered by current Nanking residents as the American "Goddess of Mercy"; and

Whereas, Minnie Vautrin's life illustrates the power of courage and compassion, peace over violence, mercy over cruelty, and hope over despair; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the historical record of service and sacrifice associated with the life and work of Minnie Vautrin and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartiest best wishes as they observe Minnie Vautrin Day in the city of Chesterfield in the Saint Louis metropolitan area of Missouri; 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 presentation during Minnie Vautrin Day, September 27, 2004.

Offered by _____
Representative Jane Cunningham
District No. 86

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3269, adopted May 28, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker