

House Resolution No. 520

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who bring glory and honor to themselves and to this great state through the excellence of their achievements; and

Whereas, Sarah Elizabeth Tipton of Jackson, Missouri, has distinguished herself as a young lady who is succeeding thus far in her struggle against Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS); and

Whereas, Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome is a series of congenital heart defects and anomalies for which young Sarah Tipton has undergone a number of palliative and reconstructive heart surgeries at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in Saint Louis since her birth in 2000; and

Whereas, Sarah Tipton and her parents, Darrin and Amanda Tipton, will visit the Missouri state capitol in Jefferson City on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2005, in order to promote the observance of "A Day for Hearts: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day"; and

Whereas, congenital heart defects are the most frequently occurring birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide; and

Whereas, more than one million families across America are facing the challenges and hardships of raising children with congenital heart defects, and each year another 40,000 babies are born with congenital heart defects in the United States; and

Whereas, unlike Sarah Tipton whose congenital heart defect was discovered at birth, many children have congenital heart defects which are not diagnosed until months or years after birth and which often cause sudden cardiac death in youth athletes; and

Whereas, Sarah Tipton and her family are diligently working for routine screening for congenital heart defects at birth and during physicals for organized sports, for an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected by congenital heart defect to celebrate life and to remember lost loved ones, and for increased public awareness about congenital heart defects:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to convey to Sarah Tipton this legislative body's best wishes in her long road to recovery from a congenital heart defect and to express our warmest welcome to her and her parents as they visit the Missouri state capitol in celebration of "A Day for Hearts: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day" on February 14, 2005; 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 Sarah Elizabeth Tipton of Jackson, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Nathan D. Cooper
District No. 158

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 520, adopted February 14, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker