

RESOLUTION NO. RS2018-1480

A resolution proclaiming November 8, 2018, as "Roberta Baines Wheeler Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Day" in Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the health of the citizens and residents of Nashville and Davidson County is the foundation for a caring and productive society; and Nashville's future rests within its ability to adequately treat, and ultimately find cures for, the afflictions caused by a variety of illnesses, including pulmonary hypertension; and

WHEREAS, Roberta Baines Wheeler, who passed away on November 5, 2016, was a nurse who served patients with care and compassion for over forty (40) years; and

WHEREAS, during her lifetime, Roberta Baines Wheeler was recognized for her tireless efforts and contributions to the community through volunteerism and public service by healthcare organizations and by her peers prior to -- and even after -- being diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension; and

WHEREAS, after her diagnosis, Roberta Baines Wheeler was named Outstanding Alumnus for contributions in health sciences for healthcare initiatives and increasing awareness of pulmonary hypertension by the Chicago State University Alumnae Association and Vitas Leadership Council; and

WHEREAS, the "Roberta Baines Wheeler Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Day" provides citizens diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension with vital resources and helps to identify undiagnosed patients who need potentially lifesaving intervention; and

WHEREAS, pulmonary hypertension is a rare disorder causing intolerable blood pressure levels in the arteries between the lungs and heart; and

WHEREAS, throughout the United States, there are at least as many undiagnosed as diagnosed patients; and

WHEREAS, without treatment, pulmonary hypertension patients live an average of 2.8 years past diagnosis. But with early diagnosis and effective treatment, the disorder can be managed to allow for long and productive lives extending twenty years or more; and

WHEREAS, as Roberta Baines Wheeler so effectively demonstrated, education can help with early diagnosis; and eventually, funding for research will help find a cure; and

WHEREAS, the Roberta Baines Wheeler Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Day brings together patients, caregivers, physicians, and the public to seek ways to prevent and cure pulmonary hypertension, and to provide hope for the pulmonary hypertension community through support, education, advocacy and awareness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as declaring November 8, 2018 as "Roberta Baines Wheeler Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Day" in Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee.

Section 2. In so doing, the Metropolitan Council further urges all citizens and residents of Nashville and Davidson County to join in observation of this worthy cause, and to recognize the seriousness of this

disease and the meritorious work of the Roberta Baines Wheeler Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Group.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

SPONSORED BY:

Brenda Haywood

Jonathan Hall
Members of Council