

RESOLUTION PUBLICLY ENDORSING AND SUPPORTING LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD AUTOMATICALLY ASSURE THAT ANY PERPETRATOR OF A RAPE INVOLVING A PERSON OVER THE AGE OF SIXTY WOULD BE CHARGED AND TRIED IN COURT UNDER THE AGGRAVATED RAPE STATUTE AND WOULD BE AUTOMATICALLY GIVEN AN ADDITIONAL TEN YEARS SENTENCE UPON CONVICTION

The Weakley County Council on Aging acting as the advisory body for the Weakley County Commission and the County Executive of Weakley County on issues affecting the general welfare of elderly citizens, do hereby resolve:

WHEREAS, rape of the elderly is grossly under reported to authorities because of humiliation, embarrassment, and fear of repeated attacks.

WHEREAS, the rape of one elderly individual can create such a psychological trauma on an entire senior population as to effect a reign of terror, from which any feeling of security is an impossibility.

WHEREAS, rape was the fastest growing violent crime in the United States during the past ten years (1977-1986).

WHEREAS, the natural process of aging, makes the elderly population more vulnerable to criminal acts and much more prone to physical damage as a result of a violent crime.

WHEREAS, the elderly citizens are not as prone to use any self-defense mechanisms, e.g., firearms, knives, clubs or even screams for help as the general population.

WHEREAS, a major concern of older Tennesseans is the fear of violent crimes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the collective members of the Weakley County Commission do hereby publicly endorse and support legislation which would by definition, automatically assure that any perpetrator of a rape involving a person over the age of sixty would be charged and tried in court under the Aggravated Rape Statue and would be automatically given an additional ten year sentence upon conviction.

This the 19th day of January, 1988.

PURSUANT TO THE RULES OF THE WEAKLEY COUNTY COMMISSION, THIS RESOLUTION IS SPONSORED BY THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

David L. McAlpin James H. Bell

Motion was made by Commissioner Ronnie Bates that the foregoing resolution be approved. Seconded by Commissioner Gene Harris.

Upon being put to a roll call vote. Motion carried.

ATTESTED TO:

APPROVED:

Faye Butts  
FAYE BUTTS, COUNTY CLERK

Kerry S. Killebrew  
KERRY S. KILLEBREW, COUNTY EXECUTIVE