

By: Representative Rushing

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF THE BEVERLY CARTER
FOUNDATION AND ITS MISSION TO CREATE A SAFER REAL
ESTATE INDUSTRY.

Subtitle

TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF THE BEVERLY
CARTER FOUNDATION AND ITS MISSION TO
CREATE A SAFER REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY.

WHEREAS, in September 2014, Beverly Carter, an executive broker in North Little Rock, Arkansas, was kidnapped and murdered while showing a house; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Carter's death was a devastating tragedy to her husband, children, mother, grandchildren, and friends; and

WHEREAS, since Mrs. Carter's death, her son Carl has spoken to thousands of real estate agents across the United States in an attempt to improve safety training within the industry, but, unfortunately, that improvement has not yet taken place; and

WHEREAS, Carl and his family recently created the nonprofit Beverly Carter Foundation in memory of Mrs. Carter and dedicated it to the ideal that every agent goes home safe every day by providing scientifically-based research, information, consulting, training, and support at no charge to every multiple listing service, association, brokerage, and agent; and



WHEREAS, the foundation will seek to solve many of the safety problems that exist within the real estate industry, including the fact that agent safety programs, training, and guidelines are lacking and ineffective at preventing criminal behavior because they are built around incorrect assumptions about crime against agents, unrealistic expectations regarding the needs of agents, and a lack of understanding of predatory behavior; and

WHEREAS, the foundation will provide safety solutions in a multifaceted approach, using educational resources, instructor-led training and certification programs, safety program implementation and consulting, technological support and endorsement, victim support and advocacy, and safety advocacy in the legislature; and

WHEREAS, the foundation will work with industry and criminology experts to develop publications, videos, online training, and social media resources; and

WHEREAS, the foundation will provide instructor-led training through classroom and online modalities at no cost to multiple listing services, associations, brokerages, and agents that will use a "real world" curriculum based on behavioral science and predator profiling to empower real estate agents to minimize their risk of being targeted, deter a predator if they are targeted, and prevent an attack if they find themselves with a predator; and

WHEREAS, the foundation will assist multiple listing services, associations, and brokerages to implement an integrated approach to agent safety in which each level within the industry hierarchy supports and reinforces the messages and efforts of the levels above and below; and

WHEREAS, through its victim's relief fund, the foundation will offer support and advocacy to agents who have been victimized while selling or leasing real estate; and

WHEREAS, the foundation will work with federal, state, and local government officials to pass laws designed to improve the safety of the

people serving in the real estate industry,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives support the formation of the Beverly Carter Foundation and encourage its mission to create a safer industry for all real estate agents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to the family of Beverly Carter by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.