

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1507

By Hakeem

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Representative JoAnne Favors on her receipt of the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators Living Legend Award - East Grand Division.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that we should honor those legendary leaders who have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their fellow citizens and to this great State during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, former Representative JoAnne Favors of Chattanooga is one such distinguished public servant, who served both her constituency and the State of Tennessee with honor and ability; and

WHEREAS, most appropriately, we take great pride in presenting Representative JoAnne Favors with the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators Living Legend Award - East Grand Division; and

WHEREAS, JoAnne Favors distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of Hamilton County, representing House District 29 as a member of the 104th, 105th, 106th, and 107th General Assemblies and House District 28 as a member of the 108th, 109th, and 110th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, the eldest of Brittie Jackson Ervin and Joseph Humphries's eleven children, Representative JoAnne Favors obtained both an associate and a bachelor's degree in nursing, thereafter gaining licensure as a registered nurse and going on to receive her master's degree in nursing administration and adult health; she is a retired health administrator and associate professor of nursing, in addition to her work as a consultant and motivational speaker; and

WHEREAS, she left an indelible mark on her profession as a member of the Tennessee and American Nurses Associations and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nurses and a trustee of Erlanger Health System from 1997 to 1999; and

WHEREAS, Representative Favors is a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Hamilton County, having served with distinction as a member of the Hamilton County Commission from 1998 to 2005, co-founder of the Southside Family Reunion, vice chair of the Hamilton County Democratic Party, and a member of the Hamilton County Democratic Women's Club, Howard High School Alumni Association, and the Daughters of Elks Temple #364; and

WHEREAS, she is also an esteemed member of Olivet Baptist Church, the Gamma Theta Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Unity Group (PUSH), National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Women in Government, National Black Caucus of State Legislators, National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women, and the Women's Leadership Council's Board of Directors; a life member of the NAACP; the founder of Tennessee Intergenerational Political Network; and co-chair of Mayor Andy Berke's Council on Women; and

WHEREAS, she served in positions as Associate Professor at Chattanooga State and as Erlanger Trustee, Head Nurse at Erlanger, T.C. Thompson's Children's Hospital and Clinical Nurse Specialist. She was the first African-American female elected to the Hamilton County Commission and was elected in 1998 and 2002; and

WHEREAS, she has received over 100 commendations for her professional, civic, and religious involvement, including the C.B. Robinson Ambassador Award and the Ruby Hurley Award from the NAACP; the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award from the Urban League; Legislator of the Year from the Tennessee Nurses Association; Distinguished Community Leader Award from

the Erlanger Foundations in 2019; and the Liberty Bell Award from the Chattanooga Bar Association in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Representative Favors is a devoted professional and civic leader, and she has proven that citizens can make a difference through being involved in community service and leading by example; and

WHEREAS, throughout her outstanding career as a public servant, JoAnne Favors worked tirelessly on behalf of her constituents, bringing to her office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, Representative JoAnne Favors is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Representative JoAnne Favors on her receipt of the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators Living Legend Award - East Grand Division in recognition of her exemplary service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.