

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 18

By White

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Charles Crawford for his sixty-year tenure at the University of Memphis.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those outstanding professionals who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Crawford is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2022, Dr. Crawford was honored for his sixty years of service at the University of Memphis, a journey at the school that he began back in 1962, fifty-five years of which he has served in the same position as director of the University of Memphis's Oral History Research Office; and

WHEREAS, he has also served as president of the Oral History Association, a membership organization for those researching oral history, and was the first person from a Southern university to be appointed as such; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his tenure, Dr. Crawford has advised more than thirty-five students in creating their doctoral dissertations and sixty-eight in crafting their master theses, exhibiting an obvious care for both scholar and scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crawford has made innumerable contributions to education at-large, from his vast array of published books and articles to his landmark Tennessee history textbook, *Tennessee: Land, History, and Government*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crawford originated from a small farm in rural Arkansas and eventually left to go study at Harding College in Searcy, Arkansas, and then the University of Arkansas,

only interrupting his studies to serve his country in the United States Army during World War II;  
and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crawford then earned a fellowship with the history department of the University of Mississippi, from which he set his sights on working in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, an extremely talented and compassionate professor, Dr. Crawford works assiduously to foster an environment in which students can reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, he is an inspiration to his colleagues, and his friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Crawford epitomizes the dedicated professional who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized on this auspicious occasion; 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 commend Dr. Charles Crawford for his exceptional service to the students of Tennessee, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

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.