

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 31

By Miller

A RESOLUTION honor and commend Representative Michael L. “Mike” Kernell on his meritorious service as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost probity and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their district and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Michael L. “Mike” Kernell, a native Memphian and graduate of the University of Memphis, is one such estimable person who served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and distinction as a member of the House of Representatives during the 89th General Assembly through the 107th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, serving as a member of the Shelby County Democratic Party and the Sierra Club, Mike Kernell distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of the 93rd House District, and for thirty-eight years they evinced their firm confidence in Representative Kernell’s abilities as a legislator; and

WHEREAS, a dignified man who greatly values civil discourse, Representative Kernell used his legislative tenure to promote statesmanship of the highest order. He consistently benefitted the debate and negotiation processes and contributed mightily to the best outcomes on a multitude of bills and resolutions traversing the legislature in committee rooms and on the hallowed floor of the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, a well-rounded legislator thoroughly versed on a host of policy issues, Mike Kernell is specially experienced in matters of environment, conservation, program evaluation, health care, licensing, administrative procedure, rules and regulatory oversight, disaster

preparedness, consumer protection, constitutional rights, needs of special children and adults, and tax reform; and

WHEREAS, first elected to the House of Representatives from Shelby County in November 1974, Representative Kernell was a member of the House Government Operations Committee from 1977 until 2012, and he served as chairman of that committee from 1993 until 2009. He also served with distinction as a member of the House Conservation and Environment Committee from 1985 until 2012, House Labor and Consumer Affairs Committee from 1975 until 1985, House Commerce Committee from 1975 until 1977, and Fiscal Review Committee from 1981 until 1989; and

WHEREAS, over the course of a long and storied tenure as a member of the House of Representatives, Mike Kernell was focused and determined for the good of the people of the 93rd House District, the State of Tennessee, and the integrity of the legislative process, and for that this body and all Memphians who have been served by this fine public servant should be thankful and deeply appreciative; and

WHEREAS, Representative Mike Kernell has been wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the “Volunteer State,” and he should be specially recognized for his sterling service to this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Michael L. “Mike” Kernell on his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of Shelby County, and extend to him our best wishes for much success and happiness 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.