

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 140

By Mitchell

A RESOLUTION to commend James G. Stranch III for his honorable and astute service on the Tennessee Ethics Commission.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm as public servants; and

WHEREAS, James G. Stranch III is one such individual, who has been an invaluable asset as a member and former chairman of the Tennessee Ethics Commission; having served on that august body since his initial appointment in 2011, his twelve-year term of service has come to a close; and

WHEREAS, James Stranch grew up in Kingsport and currently practices law at the Nashville-based firm of Branstetter, Stranch & Jennings, PLLC; he is the senior partner in the complex litigation group, a group he began on behalf of the firm, and has served as lead counsel in virtually every large complex and other class action in which the firm has served as lead plaintiff; and

WHEREAS, in his more than four decades with Branstetter, Stranch & Jennings, he has focused on labor and employment law, representing labor organizations such as pension and health plans as well as individual workers throughout Tennessee and the South; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded in his profession, Mr. Stranch holds an AV Rating from Martindale Hubbell and has been named among the Best Lawyers in America by Labor and Employment Law, *Mid-South Super Lawyers* (2014), and *Super Lawyers* (2007-2020); and

WHEREAS, James Stranch received a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law; he is a

fellow with the Nashville Bar Association and has been a member of the Tennessee Bar Association since 1973, serving the organization as chairman of the Labor Law Section from 1991 to 1992; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his important work on the Tennessee State Ethics Commission, Mr. Stranch served on the Tennessee Appellate Court Nominating Committee as secretary from 1985 to 1991 and has served as a member of the AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Advisory Committee since 1980. Since 1974, he has served as a member of both the American Association for Justice and the Tennessee Association for Justice; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many successes and worthy endeavors, Mr. Stranch has enjoyed the love and support of his wife, Jane Branstetter Stranch, and their four children and seven grandchildren, as well as his church community at St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, James Stranch is a person of integrity and an active citizen whose benevolence, acumen, and strong commitment to public service have helped to enhance the well-being of this State and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure on the Tennessee Ethics Committee, Mr. Stranch demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the respect and admiration of his fellow members and a grateful public; 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 hereby commend James G. Stranch III for his honorable and astute service as a member of the Tennessee Ethics Commission and his ongoing commitment to public service and thank him for a difficult job well done.

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.