

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 167

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of the legendary Casey Jones.

WHEREAS, Casey Jones, America's railroad legend, made his home with his family in Jackson in the great State of Tennessee and was a railroad engineer who became internationally known due to his legendary last ride on April 30, 1900, when he saved all the passengers on his train; and

WHEREAS, his historic actions were immortalized in a song penned by his friend Wallace Saunders – *The Ballad of Casey Jones* – recorded by over 150 artists since, including Mississippi John Hurt, Pete Seeger, and Johnny Cash among others, and considered the greatest railroad song of all time; and

WHEREAS, Casey Jones' life encompassed the America dream of faith and family, dedication to duty, and service to his fellow man, even at the risk and sacrifice of his own life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Jackson honors this Tennessee hero daily with a museum founded in 1956 dedicated to his life, legend, and song, and thousands upon thousands of people from across the nation and around the world have enjoyed touring this historic site as an important educational and travel attraction; and

WHEREAS, on the occasion of the Casey Jones Home & Railroad Museum's celebration of "Casey Jones Day" on March 14, 2013, the 150th anniversary of the birth of that legendary figure, it is fitting that this body honor the memory of this world-famous and courageous Tennessean; 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 join with citizens from across this State to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of the legendary Casey Jones, an American hero.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.