

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 317

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to recognize Glenn Carter on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of dedicated industry; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Carter is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for more than forty years in the field of social work; during thirty-four of those years, he rendered sterling service at Austin Peay State University (APSU); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter will be taking a much deserved retirement from his position at APSU at the conclusion of this academic year; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to the university community and his community at large, Glenn Carter has devoted his career as a social worker and a professor of social work towards aggressively implementing the principles and standards of social work through the creation of the APSU Social Work Department; and

WHEREAS, a true patriot, Mr. Carter worked to protect and preserve the freedoms and principles we all hold dear, serving in the United States Air Force from 1968 until 1972; and

WHEREAS, a 1974 APSU graduate, Mr. Carter earned his Masters degree from the University of Kentucky school of social work in 1976;

WHEREAS, in 1985, he was joined in holy matrimony to Sharon Carter; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter went to work for APSU after years of dedicated service to the Kentucky State Prison and mental health services system, where he advocated for service delivery for residents and inmates; and

WHEREAS, his strong advocacy skills caught the attention of former Chair of the APSU sociology department and later Dean of the College of Arts and Social Sciences James Nixon, who recommended Glenn Carter's appointment as a professor at the university; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed as the first Director of the social work program at APSU and was later appointed as the first Chair of the social work department, a position he held for more than twenty-nine years; and

WHEREAS, in this distinguished position, Mr. Carter dedicated himself towards the organization and development of the social work program, its curriculum, and its role in the university; during his tenure as Chair, the program grew from having several majors per year to having more than 100 majors per year; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Carter's leadership and guidance over the social work department at APSU led to its 1989 national accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education; this accreditation demonstrates the program's recognition as one that meets national standards for the professional education of social workers; and

WHEREAS, throughout his laudable career, Mr. Carter has built a reputation for the implementation of high standards and curriculum leadership; as a result of his assiduous work, a large number of graduates in the program have been accepted by graduate schools for advanced standing programs; and

WHEREAS, an active and valuable member of his community and his profession, Mr. Carter has served as a model for university leadership by bringing the Special Olympics program to APSU in 1979 and by rendering sterling service as the program's director for more than a decade; in this capacity, he continually encouraged students to participate in the program; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career at APSU, Glenn Carter also contributed his time and numerous talents to creating a more inclusive and diverse university community, advising and sponsoring the first Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) organization at APSU and earning the organization legitimate recognition on campus; and

WHEREAS, he was also frequently involved as a representative on the Austin Peay Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS, in the broader community of Middle Tennessee, Glenn Carter has served as a volunteer and board member of the American Civil Liberties Union for more than fifteen years and has been recognized as a legal expert on LGBT issues; he has utilized his expertise many times as an expert witness in both state and federal courts on LGBT issues, achieving recognition on the state and national level; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carter exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, he has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Glenn Carter our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, offering our deepest gratitude for his decades of service to the highest tenets of education and quality.

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