

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 588

By Travis

A RESOLUTION to honor Paul Overstreet on his singular achievements as a singer and songwriter.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause to pay tribute to those gifted singers and songwriters whose remarkable talents are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, Paul Overstreet is one such estimable singer and songwriter, who is one of the most successful songwriters in contemporary country music; and

WHEREAS, as a songwriter, Mr. Overstreet has written and co-written twenty-seven top ten songs, his first being George Jones's "Same Ole Me." A number of other artists have recorded Mr. Overstreet's songs, including Randy Travis, Tanya Tucker, Paul Davis, Keith Whitley, Alison Kraus, The Judds, Kenny Chesney, and Blake Shelton; and

WHEREAS, as an artist, Paul Overstreet has written and recorded many songs himself, several of which were also top ten hits, including "You Can't Stop Love," "Sowin' Love," and "Seein' My Father in Me"; and

WHEREAS, not only have Mr. Overstreet's songs been recorded by multiple artists, they have also garnered him a number of awards, including two Grammy Awards, three Dove Awards, five BMI Songwriter of the Year awards, the CCMA Songwriter of the Year award, and the CCMA Mainstream Artist of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Paul Overstreet was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Association International Hall of Fame, and, in 2011, he was honored with his own road marker on the Mississippi Country Music Trail in Vancleave, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, one of the most rewarding of Mr. Overstreet's many ventures is his work with Franklin Graham and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association; he has also had the distinct honor of traveling to areas such as Nicaragua and Honduras with Samaritan's Purse, a

relief organization committed to meeting the spiritual and physical needs of people in crisis situations; and

WHEREAS, Paul Overstreet founded Scarlet Moon Records and released *A Songwriters Project – Volume 1*, featuring his own rendering of hit songs he penned that were previously recorded by other artists; and

WHEREAS, happily married to his wife, Julie, Mr. Overstreet is the proud father of six children: Nash, Summer, Chord, Harmony, Skye, and Charity, each of whom is endowed with Mr. Overstreet's musical talents; and

WHEREAS, when Paul Overstreet first came to Nashville as an eighteen-year-old from the bayous of Mississippi, he had nothing but a laundry basket, a guitar, and a dream of writing songs and making records; today, he has surpassed those goals and earned his place as one of the greatest songwriters in contemporary country music; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Overstreet has made immeasurable contributions to the country music industry, and it is appropriate that we acknowledge his long and distinguished career; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Paul Overstreet on his illustrious career as one of the most successful singers and songwriters in contemporary country music, as we salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

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