

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 720

By Byrd

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Chief Melvin Martin upon being named the 2017 Tennessee Fire Chief of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their professional careers and personal abilities to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Chief Melvin Martin is one such estimable individual, who was selected as the 2017 Tennessee Fire Chief of the Year at the Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association's annual conference in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, the most important honor the Tennessee fire service can bestow upon one of its chief fire executives, the Fire Chief of the Year award recognizes a fire chief who has provided unparalleled service to the Tennessee fire and emergency services and has greatly enhanced the visibility and awareness of the fire service profession; and

WHEREAS, Chief Martin began his career as a volunteer trainee in the Finger Fire Department in January 1989; he rose to the position of assistant chief and later chief training officer, a position in which he served for seven years; and

WHEREAS, promoted to fire chief of the Finger Fire Department in 1996, Melvin Martin assumed his current position as Hardin County fire chief in November 2004; and

WHEREAS, a leader in his field, Chief Martin has received advanced training on emergency rescue and safety, search and rescue, and hazardous materials; he is a certified public safety diver and formed the Hardin County Dive Team in 2005; and

WHEREAS, chair of the Tennessee Fire Service Coalition, Melvin Martin helped organize the West Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association in 2010 and served as its first president;

he has also served on the board of the National Volunteer Firefighters Council for five years;
and

WHEREAS, Chief Martin epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of
a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Melvin Martin is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service
that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially
recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED
TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE
CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Chief Melvin Martin upon being named the 2017
Tennessee Fire Chief of the Year, commend his honorable and astute service to the good
people of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

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