

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 758

By Vital

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Cash Daniels upon being selected as a *TIME* magazine "Kid of the Year" finalist.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to salute those young citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as emerging community, state, and national leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such deserving person is Cash Daniels of Chattanooga, who was recently selected as a *TIME* magazine "Kid of the Year" finalist for his tireless dedication to the conservation of Tennessee's wildlife, waterways, and wild places; and

WHEREAS, popularly known as the "Conservation Kid," twelve-year-old Cash Daniels has made it his life's work to keep the Tennessee River clean; through his efforts, more than 14,000 pounds of trash have been removed from the river, and over a ton of aluminum cans have been recycled to raise funds for conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniels got his start as a young conservationist at the age of seven, when he noticed a discarded plastic straw on a beach; while he had always loved nature, once he learned that eighty percent of all trash from the land ends up in the ocean, he knew he had to do something; and

WHEREAS, what began with initial cleanups along the Tennessee River with his family has grown exponentially to become a conservation movement that is inspiring others across the country to get involved in cleaning up the waterways where they live; and

WHEREAS, Cash Daniels was selected as one of America's Top 10 Youth Volunteers of 2021 in the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. He also earned the title of National

Honoree, along with a \$5,000 scholarship, received a \$5,000 grant to go to a nonprofit organization of his choice, and was recognized as a top youth volunteer by actress and philanthropist Priyanka Chopra Jonas; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Daniels is the first person to win the Youth Conservationist Award two years in a row from the Tennessee Wildlife Federation; and

WHEREAS, Cash Daniels and the Canadian environmentalist Ella Galaski-Rossen are cofounders of the nonprofit organization The Cleanup Kids, which they established in 2019 to create educational videos on their YouTube channel with the aim of inspiring others to make meaningful contributions through volunteer service; and

WHEREAS, with the encouraging support of his family, Cash Daniels has had an incredibly positive impact on his hometown of Chattanooga; in addition to hosting river cleanups, he has written a children's book about river pollution and raised enough money to place seventeen monofilament recycling bins along the Tennessee River; and

WHEREAS, he also runs a recycling program with local businesses to keep aluminum cans out of landfills and support river conservation, and he is working with State agencies to place additional monofilament receptacles along waterways so that discarded fishing line does not end up entangling fish; and

WHEREAS, the success of this State, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people such as Cash Daniels, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others and who should be specially recognized for their public and community service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Cash Daniels upon being selected as a TIME

magazine "Kid of the Year" finalist, applaud his outstanding efforts to keep the Tennessee River clean and healthy, 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.