

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 850

By Sherrell

A RESOLUTION to honor J. D. Wooten for his heroism in rescuing a family from a fire on January 21, 2024.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is blessed with everyday citizens who are willing to risk their personal safety and their lives to come to the aid of persons in distress during times of crisis; and

WHEREAS, J. D. Wooten exemplifies those ideals to the highest extent, proving himself an outstanding member of his community and acting with the utmost selflessness; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2024, Mr. Wooten utilized courage, skill, and his resources to save an entire family in the midst of their business and home catching fire; and

WHEREAS, while driving to a call for his job as a plumber, Mr. Wooten witnessed a building off the highway enveloped in flames and immediately took the next exit to help; and

WHEREAS, he spotted a group of individuals on the building's roof with no way to escape the fire, which had coated over half the building; despite having no firefighter training, on arrival, he removed the ladder from his truck and brought the family of six and their dog off the roof and to safety; and

WHEREAS, the building was entirely consumed in the fire just minutes after the rescue, and while it took over five hours to completely settle the situation, Mr. Wooten's quick thinking and dauntless actions were able to prevent any injury from coming to the family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wooten, humbly believing he was in the right place at the right time, was deeply pleased to have offered his assistance and hoped that his desire to help would inspire others to do the same when met with the opportunity; and

WHEREAS, we wish to extend our gratitude and approbation to J. D. Wooten for his fearless rescue; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend J. D. Wooten for his exceptional bravery and heroism in saving an entire family during a fire in Sparta and thank him for a dangerous job well done.

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.