

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 856

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Debra L. Sigeo, Third Annual Living Legend Awards honoree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable individuals who have dedicated their time and energies toward enhancing the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Debra L. Sigeo, who is being honored at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the leadership and service she has provided to the people of Memphis and Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, the Third Annual Living Legend Awards ceremony, which honors Harriet Tubman and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis on March 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, Mrs. Sigeo graduated in the top ten percent of her high school class and worked in several professions before moving to the Memphis area in 1995, when her husband, Sergeant First Class Emile Sigeo, United States Army, was transferred to the Millington base; and

WHEREAS, despite being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, she has been and continues to be a valuable advocate for the uninformed and voiceless citizens in her community; and

WHEREAS, since earning certification in grant writing from the University of Memphis, Debra Sigeo has written grant proposals for many nonprofit organizations at no charge; and

WHEREAS, she serves as a Millington Housing Authority hearing officer and the executive director of the Millington Crisis Center, which she expertly restructured and reorganized to meet State standards; and

WHEREAS, Debra Sigeo received the Alpha Kappa Alpha Prominent Black Women Economic Growth of the Black Family Award in 2007 and was named Omega Citizen of the Year by Sigma Lambda Lambda in 2015; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, she became the first woman and the first African American to run for mayor of the City of Millington; and

WHEREAS, the proud mother of a blended family of five children, Debra L. Sigeo is an exemplary individual; her commitment to excellence and community service is representative of the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Debra L. Sigeo upon her recognition at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud her outstanding community leadership, and extend our best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors.

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.