

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 892

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Yvonne B. Acey, 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 Yvonne B. Acey, 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 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, Yvonne B. Acey is a former Northside High School English instructor and project specialist with Memphis City Schools and past president of the Memphis Education Association; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Acey co-founded and organized the Africa In April Cultural Awareness Festival, Inc., thirty-three years ago with her husband, Dr. David L. Acey, Sr.; she currently serves as associate director of the nonprofit organization, which sponsors year-round activities and the Africa In April Cultural Awareness Festival that celebrates the arts, history, culture, and diversity of the African Diaspora; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Acey has served her profession and her community as president of Women Education, Inc., former president and member of The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Beta Eta Chapter, first vice president of Memphis Kwanzaa International, a board member of The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Memphis Education Association's

M-PACE political action chair, and a member of the Shelby County Election Commission, the LeMoyne-Owen College Alumni Association, and the National Council of Negro Women, Shelby County Section; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades for her exemplary public service and potent advocacy, Mrs. Acey has been recognized by the *Tri-State Defender* as a Pioneer; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., as Beta Epsilon Omega Soror of the Year, Southeastern Regional Humanitarian Soror of the Year, and International World Community Soror; and The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., as Outstanding Soror of the Year and Southeastern Regional Honoree. She has received the 100 Black Women Legacy Leadership award, the Tennessee Education Association's Susan B. Anthony Award, and the Center City Commission's Vision honor for Africa In April, among others; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Acey earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Humanities from LeMoyne-Owen College and holds a master's degree in special education and rehabilitation from the University of Memphis; she has completed certification in educational administration and supervision as well as ninety hours of doctoral studies; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Acey is an active member of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church-Westwood, which has honored her with its Legacy Award; and

WHEREAS, she is grateful for the love and support she shares with her husband, Dr. David L. Acey, Sr., and their son, David L. Acey II; and

WHEREAS, Yvonne Acey 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 Yvonne B. Acey 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.