

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 934

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Representative Johnnie Turner,  
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 Representative Johnnie Turner, 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, Representative Johnnie Turner is a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, she distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of the 85<sup>th</sup> House District, whom she served as a member of the House of Representatives during the 106<sup>th</sup> through 110<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Turner is a retired educator and former civil rights advocate administrator, and she has proven that citizens can make a difference by being involved in community service and leading by example; and

WHEREAS, Representative Turner is a founding member and past president of the Memphis Alliance of Black School Educators, and she is a member of the Memphis Retired Teachers Association and the United Teaching Profession; and

WHEREAS, an executive committee member of the NAACP Tennessee State Conference, she gives back to her community through her work with the Memphis/Shelby County Anti-Predatory Lending Coalition and the Westwood Neighborhood Association; she serves on the board of The New Memphis Arena Building Authority, served on the advisory board of the Memphis Juvenile Court System, and is a past vice chair of the Health, Educational, and Housing Facility Board of Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, a Leadership Memphis alumna, Representative Turner serves as secretary of the LeMoyne-Owen National Alumni Association and is a past president of the Memphis Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, she is the recipient of legislative and community service awards too numerous to enumerate; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a Memphis "Freedom Sister" at the National Civil Rights Museum, Johnnie Turner was featured in *You Can't Kill the Dream: People Living the Dream* and the PBS documentary *Memories of the March*; and

WHEREAS, Johnnie Turner received her Bachelor of Science degree from LeMoyne-Owen College and her Master of Education degree from the University of Memphis; she completed post-graduate studies at the University of Memphis and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Representative Johnnie Turner 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 Representative Johnnie Turner 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.