

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1067

By Doss

A RESOLUTION to recognize District Attorney General Thomas Michel "Mike" Bottoms on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers in public service; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Michel "Mike" Bottoms is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for thirty-two years as District Attorney General of the 22nd Judicial District of the State of Tennessee, which encompasses Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne counties in the south central region of Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, General Bottoms will be taking a much deserved retirement in August of this year after serving four eight-year terms at the helm, preceded by an eight-year stint as an assistant district attorney general in the same office; and

WHEREAS, Mike Bottoms attended Middle Tennessee State University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Pre-Law in 1970; he matriculated to the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at Memphis State University and earned his juris doctorate there in 1973; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, General Bottoms attended the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in Quantico, Virginia; two years later, he completed the Prosecutors Short Course at Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago, Illinois, and he completed the Homeland Security Conference at the National College of District Attorneys in Columbia, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, General Bottoms became licensed to practice law in Tennessee in 1974; he was admitted to practice in the United States District Court, Middle District of Tennessee in 1976; he was admitted to practice before the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court in 1992 and 1995, respectively; and

WHEREAS, General Bottoms is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including: the Tennessee Bar Association, in which he has held a host of leadership positions; Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference, in which he has held every top leadership position; and the State Environmental Enforcement Coordinating Committee which he served as co-chairman. He is a Fellow of the Tennessee Bar Foundation and a member of the Tennessee Judicial Selection Commission, which he has served as chairman and secretary; and

WHEREAS, General Bottoms has a gift for teaching and has taught Criminal Law at Columbia State Community College (CSCC), Environmental Awareness at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, and Trial Advocacy for the National College of District Attorneys, and he is a Trustee of the CSCC Foundation; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, he has been recognized in his community as a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International, Lawrence County Citizen of the Year, and Kiwanian of the Year; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his role as the chief prosecutor for the people of his four-county district, General Bottoms has been a robust initiator of a plethora of crime prevention and community safety campaigns that include the award-winning “Meth Destroys Campaign” and “What’s the Rush Campaign” that encourages teenagers to delay parenthood; and

WHEREAS, General Bottoms is an ardent supporter of child abuse prevention efforts, has steered the development of a law enforcement training consortium, The Southeastern Law Enforcement Training Seminars, Inc., has overseen the establishment of a successful drug court program in the 22nd District, and has been instrumental in bolstering CSCC’s Criminal Justice program at its Maury and Lawrence County campuses; and

WHEREAS, his career of public service as an attorney and prosecutor has been exemplary, yet he is most appreciative of the love and companionship of his wife, Christy Harwell Bottoms. They are faithful worshipers at Coleman Memorial United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, together, General and Mrs. Bottoms receive great joy from the love and support of their children, Michel Claire, William, and Miles; they are blessed with one grandson, Oliver Thomas Bottoms, whom they love very much; and

WHEREAS, General Bottoms exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; throughout his estimable career, he has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and a grateful public; and

WHEREAS, it timely and fitting that this legislative body recognize General Bottoms on the occasion of his retirement from public service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize District Attorney General Thomas Michel “Mike” Bottoms on the occasion of his retirement, thank him for his legal advocacy and service to the good people of the 22nd Judicial District of the State of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for success in all of his 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.