

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1086

By Hardaway

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Andre L. Churchwell, M.D., on becoming Senior Associate Dean for Diversity Affairs at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Andre L. Churchwell, M.D., who was recently named the Senior Associate Dean for Diversity Affairs at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, graduating magna cum laude from Vanderbilt University in 1975 with a degree in biomedical engineering, Andre Churchwell attended Harvard Medical School, earning his medical degree in 1979, and fulfilled his postdoctoral training at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, after completing his internship at Emory University in 1980, Dr. Churchwell performed his residency at Woodruff Health Sciences Center in 1982 and a cardiology fellowship at Emory University in 1984; he became the first African-American to serve as chief resident of medicine at Grady Memorial Hospital, completing his residency in 1985; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Churchwell joined the faculty of Emory University in 1986, conducting research, attending patients, teaching students, and running the echocardiography lab; he also created and directed the office of minority affairs and spearheaded the establishment of the Emory-Georgia Tech Biomedical Technology Research Center, for which he received the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Minority Faculty Development Award; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Dr. Andre Churchwell left Emory University to join the Page-Campbell Cardiology Group, now Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institute, in Nashville as a managing and eventually senior partner; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Churchwell became a member of the Vanderbilt faculty in 1991, where he served as the Associate Dean for Diversity in Graduate Medical Education and Faculty Affairs for the university while also teaching as a professor of medicine (cardiology), radiology and radiological sciences, and biomedical engineering; and

WHEREAS, held in high esteem by his colleagues in the medical field, since 1996, Dr. Churchwell has been on the list of "Best Doctors in America", a peer-selected honor; he is greatly admired and respected for his patient care, in which he develops a compassionate doctor-patient relationship that focuses on caring for his patients with great kindness and concern; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Andre Churchwell epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Andre L. Churchwell is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Doreatha Churchwell, whom he met during his residency at Grady Hospital, where she was a nurse, and their daughter, Crystal, and son, Andre Jr.; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Andre L. Churchwell, M.D., for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; 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 honor and commend Andre L. Churchwell, M.D., on becoming Senior Associate Dean for Diversity Affairs at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in 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.