

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1097

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Marquita Bradshaw, Fourth 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 Marquita Bradshaw, who is being honored at the Fourth Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the leadership and service she has provided to the people of Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bradshaw made history as the first African-American woman to win a major political party nomination in any statewide race in Tennessee with her 2020 U.S. Senate run on an environmental justice platform; she is the founder and director of Sowing Justice, an organization dedicated to coalition building, increasing civic engagement utilizing citizen science, and providing tools and resources to emerging grassroots organizations; and

WHEREAS, a South Memphis native, Marquita Bradshaw was a working-class mother raising a child while pursuing a degree from the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bradshaw's career and service include work in labor, environment, education reform, tax reform, trade policy, and social justice; she has championed a host of community causes in Memphis and throughout the Mid-South as an organizer at the local, State, and national levels; and

WHEREAS, along with organizing around her own community's National Priorities List Superfund site, which is a military landfill, Ms. Bradshaw has served as community communications liaison to the Memphis Community Advisory Board of the Southern Gateway Environmental Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence on behalf of the Memphis

chapter Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Community Action and Response Against Toxics team; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Ms. Bradshaw received the Dick Mochow Environmental Justice Award from the Sierra Club, the Human Rights Award from the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center, and the VOX Student Award: Financial Literacy High School Pilot from the Public Relations Student Society of America; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Marquita Bradshaw has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity; 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 TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Marquita Bradshaw upon her recognition at the Fourth Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud her outstanding community leadership, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, 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.