

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1127

By Camper

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Tonja Sessley-Baymon upon being named a Woman of Excellence by the *New Tri-State Defender*.

WHEREAS, throughout the years, women in Memphis, Tennessee, have been leaders in the areas of civic responsibility, business endeavors, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, for the past seven years, the *New Tri-State Defender*, a Memphis-based newspaper, has honored over three hundred outstanding African-American women as part of its "Women of Excellence" annual presentation; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 selection of honorees includes fifty such women, who have achieved success as executives, business owners, community leaders, ministers, non-profit executives, media personalities, physicians, educators, and role models in their respective fields; and

WHEREAS, these honorees were chosen from among 110 nominations, based upon proven success within their profession or industry, and upon their efforts to encourage others while remaining highly active in community service and organizational involvement; and

WHEREAS, one such honoree is Tonja Sessley-Baymon, President and CEO of the Memphis Urban League; and

WHEREAS, the Annual *New Tri-State Defender* Women of Excellence awards will be celebrated on April 26, 2014, at the Memphis Botanic Garden; 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 commend Tonja Sessley-Baymon upon being honored as one

of the *New Tri-State Defender's* Women of Excellence for 2014 in recognition of her many contributions to her community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.