

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1179

By Miller

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Representative Karen Camper 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 our most valued colleague, Representative Karen Camper, a legislator of uncommon ability and dedication; and

WHEREAS, Karen Camper proudly served her country in the U.S. Army and retired at the rank of Chief Warrant Officer Three; and

WHEREAS, she has served the good people of House District 87 with distinction from the 105<sup>th</sup> through 108<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Representative Camper is a strong advocate for minorities and women and the issues affecting their lives, and her excellent record of public service also reflects concern and compassion for the disadvantaged citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, she renders astute service as a board member of Women Legislators' Lobby/Women's Action for New Direction (Will/WAND), chair of Region IV of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, national 1<sup>st</sup> vice president of the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL Women), a board member of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, and a life member of the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, on Capitol Hill, Karen Camper has proven her talents as a legislator through service as Democratic Floor Leader, chair of the Women's Caucus, chair of the Veterans' Caucus, and a member of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee, House Finance, Ways and Means Subcommittee, House Ethics Committee, and House Transportation Committee; and

WHEREAS, a public servant who is always looking to broaden her horizons, Representative Camper is a member of the Council of State Governments Distinguished Henry K. Toll Fellowship Class of 2013; 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 Representative Karen Camper 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.