

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1219

By Turner M

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Ben West, Jr., for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost probity, and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their district and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ben West, Jr., is one such distinguished public servant who has served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and distinction as a House member of the 94th through the 106th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Representative West has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of the 60th House District and Davidson County, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, Ben West, Jr., has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of House District 60, who have evinced their firm belief in Representative West's abilities as a legislator by electing him to serve thirteen terms as their representative, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, a resident of Hermitage, Representative West hails from a proud political lineage; he is the son of the late Ben West, Sr., former Mayor of Nashville, and the brother of Jay West, former Councilman-at-Large and Vice Mayor of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Sewanee Military Academy and the Tennessee School of Banking, Ben West is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Security Express, LLC,

Security Express Protective Services, LLC, and Automated Teller Machines Unlimited, LLC, and possesses more than thirty-one years of banking experience; and

WHEREAS, as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process, Representative West currently renders sterling service as a member of the House Transportation Committee, State and Local Government Committee, the House Public Safety Subcommittee, Local Government Subcommittee, and the State Capitol Commission. He previously served as the Chairman of the House Consumer and Employees Affairs Committee and Chairman of the Davidson County Delegation to the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a remarkable individual who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, Representative West has graciously donated his time and energies to many community and civic organizations. He is the founder of the Ben West, Jr., Youth Sports Complex, the co-founder of the Donelson-Hermitage Senior Citizens Center, a member of the Greater Nashville Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, an honorary board member of the House of Mercy, a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Arts Foundation, and a former member of the Board of Directors of Summit Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, he also is a member or former member of the boards of directors of the McKendree Village Retirement Complex, the Donelson Hermitage YMCA, the Hospice Foundation, and the Centerstone Mental Health Centers, holds membership in the McWhirtersville Masonic Lodge, is a member of the Donelson-Hermitage Neighborhood Association and the American Association of Retired Persons, and twice served as President of the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce, which also recognized Representative West as the Business Man of the Year; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Representative West is the recipient of the Boy Scout's Long Rifle Award, the Public Personnel Award given by the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and the Legislator of the Year Awards given by the Alcohol and Drug Association, the Tennessee Municipal League, and the County Officials Association; and

WHEREAS, he also devotes his time to the St. Philips Episcopal Church, where has served with distinction as a Layreader, Chalice Bearer, and two-time Senior Warden; and

WHEREAS, Representative West is recognized throughout the great State of Tennessee as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience with the interests of the good people of House District 60 at heart; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career as a public servant, Ben West, Jr., has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents, bringing to his office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, his many civic and professional accomplishments aside, Ben West, Jr., is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Phyllis Duff West; his children and stepchildren, Tracey, Melissa, Amy, Ginger, and David; and his nine grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ben West, Jr., is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his distinguished tenure in this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Ben West, Jr., for his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly, commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 60th House District, and extend to him our best wishes for much success and happiness in all 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.