

HOUSE RESOLUTION 148

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Eddy Ford for this distinguished service to the people of Farragut.

WHEREAS, it is fitting the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those Tennessee public servants who have devoted so much of their time and energy to improving the lives of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Eddy Ford, who has served the people of Farragut in a number of capacities over the course of his life in that East Tennessee community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ford has twice been elected Mayor of Farragut, winning the post in 1993 and again in 2005; from 1984 to 1993, he served as Vice Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, when the Town of Farragut was first incorporated, Eddy Ford became one of the town's first Aldermen, serving Ward II until his first election to the mayoralty; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ford serves and has served his community in many other roles as well; he is a member of the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission and the Farragut Beer Board; and

WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Leadership Knoxville, the Local Government Leadership Program at the University of Tennessee Center for Government Training, and the Knox County Sheriff's Office Citizen Academy; and

WHEREAS, a board member of several local and regional public planning and development organizations, Mr. Ford serves on the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization Executive Board, where he is the immediate past Chair of that body; he represents

Farragut, Knoxville, and Knox County on the East Tennessee Development District (ETDD) Executive Committee and also on its Board of Directors, of which he is a past Chair; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ford is on the Knoxville Area Joint Economic and Community Development Board's Board of Directors Executive Committee, and he also serves on the East Tennessee Human Resources Agency (ETHRA) Board of Directors, of which he is a past Chair, on the ETHRA Policy Council, and on the ETHRA Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to building relationships among members of local government across the State, Mr. Ford is a member of the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Board of Directors and he previously served as Director of TML District Two; and

WHEREAS, Eddy Ford also devotes considerable time to the National League of Cities (NLC); he is currently on the NLC Advisory Committee and the NLC Small Cities Council Steering Committee, and is a former member of the NLC Board of Directors and the NLC Community and Economic Development Policy and Advocacy Committee and a former Chair of the NLC Small Cities Council; and

WHEREAS, in his professional life, Mr. Ford worked in the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Computational Physics and Engineering Division, and its predecessor divisions, for thirty-three years before retiring; he holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, prior to working at ORNL, Mr. Ford was employed as a construction engineer for the United States Atomic Energy Commission and served as a commissioned officer in the United States Army for two years of active duty; and

WHEREAS, Eddy Ford and his wife, Linda Ford, are longtime residents of Farragut; they are both 1957 graduates of Farragut High School, where Mr. Ford played football and basketball and earned the title of Valedictorian of his graduating class; and

WHEREAS, Eddy Ford has given back to the local public schools that served him in his earlier years; he is one of the founders of the Farragut High School Education Foundation and he has officiated high school football games as a member of the Knoxville Football Officials Association, to which he has belonged for twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the common good herself, Mrs. Ford serves as a volunteer for the Town of Farragut; she is also a member of the Farragut Folklife Museum Committee, the Admiral Farragut Statue Committee, and the Leisure Service Advisory Board and she is Chairwoman of the Farragut Beautification Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Fords are members of the Concord United Methodist Church, where they were married in 1960; in their leisure time, they enjoy taking road trips in their red sports car, taking care of their miniature schnauzer, Mollie, and maintaining the family farm, which occupies land that has been in Mr. Ford's family since 1912; and

WHEREAS, throughout his years of service to the people of Farragut and the surrounding region, Eddy Ford has demonstrated nothing less than the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his friends, constituents, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, the people of this State are fortunate to have among them natural leaders who are both willing and able to exercise their talents on behalf of the public weal, and Eddy Ford is certainly one of these estimable individuals; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and recognize Eddy Ford for his service to the people of Farragut and the State of Tennessee, thank him for all he has done to improve the lives of his fellow citizens, and wish him all the best 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.