

HOUSE RESOLUTION 169

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend James Lee Holland on sixty years of continuous membership in the American Legion.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee have, throughout the years, been called upon to take up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all citizens of these United States and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, while the heroic deeds of Tennesseans have been extolled throughout the history of our State and nation, the distinguished military service of every proud Tennessean should be illuminated, shared, and properly honored; and

WHEREAS, one such Tennessean is James Lee Holland, who was recently honored by the American Legion with a certificate for sixty years of continuous membership in the organization, issued in grateful appreciation of his faithful and dedicated allegiance to the ideals of the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, born in Macon County in 1929, James Holland grew up on a farm on the Galen Road; in 1948, he graduated from Macon County High School, where he was a member of the football and basketball teams; and

WHEREAS, after high school, Mr. Holland went to work as a lineman for Tri County, a position he left to take a teaching position at Highlands School, serving in this capacity until 1951; he also attended David Lipscomb College; and

WHEREAS, from 1951 to 1955, Mr. Holland served his country as a member of the United States Navy; upon completing basic training in San Diego, he was transferred to Seattle, Washington, then back to San Diego for dental tech school, thereafter serving as a dental technician along the west coast; and

WHEREAS, while serving as a dental technician, James Holland was attached at the Marine Recruit Depot for two years in San Diego; during this time, he required knee surgery and was subsequently transferred to Memphis in 1954; and

WHEREAS, six months later, in 1955, Mr. Holland was discharged from the Navy; he returned to Macon County and worked for Imperial Reading for twenty-five years, until the company closed in June of 1979; then, in 1980, he purchased Buck Stoves, which he continues to operate after thirty-seven years; and

WHEREAS, James Holland has been a very active member of the Macon County community throughout the years; in addition to being a member with the American Legion, he has served as a member of the Jaycees, chairman of the March of Dimes, a charter member of the Macon County Hot Shots basketball team, coach for Pop Warner football, and coach for the Babe Ruth League; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Holland is perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship of his wife, Virginia Bray Holland, and their four sons, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, while no offering can properly relay our gratitude for his bravery and dedication to preserving the blessed freedom that is inseparable from our American heritage and ideals, it is most appropriate that we should honor Mr. Holland to the full extent of our ability, as his service in the Navy helped to preserve the liberties we enjoy today; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby congratulate James Lee Holland upon his sixty years of continuous membership in the American Legion, commend him for his honorable military service, applaud his dedication and bravery, and extend our best wishes for his continued success and happiness in the future.

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