

HOUSE RESOLUTION 8004 of the Second Extraordinary Session

By Powers

A RESOLUTION to recognize Gary Gray on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Gary Gray is one such estimable person who recently began his much-deserved retirement after serving with distinction at Gray Insurance, a business founded by his father in the 1950s; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gray is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations; and

WHEREAS, renowned in his community for his success as a high school basketball star, Gary Gray initially played for the freshman basketball team at La Follette High School, organized by head coach Jerry Dagley in 1967, because he lacked the talent to play on the junior varsity team (B-Team). Following his rocky start as a suitably heighted, but otherwise unimpressive bench player for the B-Team, his unmatched desire to succeed at the sport drove him to work harder, and he became skilled enough to play for the B-Team his sophomore year; and

WHEREAS, due to a health issue for varsity team player Lawrence "Bucket" Brewer that forced him to leave the team, Mr. Gray moved from the B-Team to a starting position on the varsity team by the end of his sophomore year; his hard work met opportunity, and he led the La Follette Owls to victory over the Senators in his first starting game; and

WHEREAS, Gary Gray etched his name in La Follette High School basketball history and the hearts of his fellow teammates and his community at large; his drive and dedication have been displayed throughout his life in everything he has set his mind to; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gray exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Gary Gray has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Gary Gray our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success 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.