

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 59

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jerry Slaven upon being named the *Independent Herald/Scott County Chamber of Commerce 2022 Scott County Person of the Year*.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Jerry Slaven of Scott County, a community leader who was recently named the *Independent Herald/Scott County Chamber of Commerce 2022 Scott County Person of the Year*; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Slaven is the only recipient of this distinguished award to earn the honor twice, having previously been named Scott County's Person of the Year in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Slaven, who, along with his wife, Diane, owns JDS Technologies, has long been committed to enriching the lives of the people of Scott County; his generous support of the Boys & Girls Club of the Cumberland Plateau, for example, has helped ensure the club's continued success over the years; and

WHEREAS, his compassion for easing the burdens of those in their final days of life has also been an inspiration to his community, as evidenced on Christmas Day of 2022, when Mr. Slaven arranged for his personal plane to transport Kellie Walker, the executive director of the Children's Center of the Cumberlands, from Texas, where she had been undergoing cancer treatment, to her home in Scott County so that she could spend her last Christmas surrounded by family; and

WHEREAS, Kellie Walker, who was named Scott County's Person of the Year in 2021, inspired the entire community with her fight against cancer, while Jerry Slaven worked behind

the scenes to arrange Ms. Walker's travel to Texas for medical treatments and back home to be with her family and two young daughters; and

WHEREAS, earlier that year, he similarly helped Dylan Smith, an employee of JDS Technologies and a former EMT with the Scott County Ambulance Service who was hospitalized with a congenital illness, make it home in time to be with his loved ones before his passing; Mr. Slaven not only sent his private plane to transport Mr. Smith home but also helped arrange the celebration of life party for Mr. Smith and his large group of family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Slaven's employees at JDS Technologies are treated as part of a workplace family, and many have told stories over the years of Mr. Slaven's generosity when a small token of kindness or a helping hand was much needed; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Slaven has done much to improve the lives and the health of his fellow Scott Countians, and it is fitting that he be recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend and congratulate Jerry Slaven upon being named the *Independent Herald*/Scott County Chamber of Commerce 2022 Scott County Person of the Year and extend to him our sincere best wishes for much continued 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.