

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 141

By White

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of K-9 Sjaak of the La Vergne Police Department.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of K-9 Officer Sjaak of the La Vergne Police Department, who died from injuries sustained in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, K-9 Officer Sjaak was a dedicated canine officer whose ability in the field undoubtedly enhanced the safety and security of those in this State; and

WHEREAS, a Belgian Malinois, K-9 Officer Sjaak joined the La Vergne Police Department in 2014 and was paired with Officer Justin Darby, with whom he bravely served for six years; and

WHEREAS, a great tragedy befell the City of La Vergne on November 18, 2020, when K-9 Officer Sjaak died during emergency surgery for injuries sustained the day before when a suspect opened fire on Officer Darby's patrol vehicle while he and K-9 Officer Sjaak were inside; while Officer Darby was unharmed, K-9 Officer Sjaak was shot three times; and

WHEREAS, K-9 Officer Sjaak was a beloved member of the La Vergne Police Department family who was well known for his intelligence, loyalty, and bravery, and it is fitting that we pause to remember him at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of K-9 Officer Sjaak of the La Vergne Police Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to his handler, Officer Justin Darby, the La Vergne Police Department, and the citizens of the City of La Vergne.

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.