

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 401

By Rose

A RESOLUTION to honor the West Tennessee Drug Task Force's interdiction team on being named the 2020 Team of the Year by the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in paying tribute to those outstanding law enforcement officers who have demonstrated great passion and determination in carrying out their appointed mission to rid Tennessee of dangerous drugs and violent crime; and

WHEREAS, the West Tennessee Drug Task Force's (WTDTF's) interdiction team was recently named 2020 Team of the Year by the six-state Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA); and

WHEREAS, the Gulf Coast HIDTA aims to reduce illegal drug trafficking through the coordinated efforts of some 932 agencies in its region along the major drug corridors of I-40, I-10, and I-20 to the Mexican border, including Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, the nine-member WTDTF interdiction team, which patrols Interstate 40 in Shelby, Fayette, and Haywood counties, conducted more than 140 stops last year; and

WHEREAS, their efforts resulted in a number of significant seizures, including marijuana, heroin, Fentanyl, other dangerous drugs, and U.S. currency, with a total street value of more than \$100 million; and

WHEREAS, more than thirty percent of the team's stops involved subjects affiliated with or identified by federal investigations; and

WHEREAS, these courageous agents frequently apprehend persons wanted for murder, rape, and other violent crimes, and their investigations have uncovered human trafficking, credit card and identity theft rings, and a host of other crimes; and

WHEREAS, the WTDTF operates by joint agreement of Tennessee's District Attorney Generals for the 28th Judicial District (Frederick Agee), the 29th Judicial District (Danny Goodman, Jr.), and the 30th Judicial District (Amy Weirich) and also includes members assigned from Fayette County Sheriff Bobby Riles, Haywood County Sheriff Billy Garrett, Jr., and the Memphis, Germantown, and Oakland police departments; and

WHEREAS, without regard for their personal safety, the members of the WTDTF interdiction team work with purpose and commitment on a daily basis to remove deadly drugs and violent criminals from our communities, and they are richly deserving of our approbation on this special occasion; 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 and congratulate the West Tennessee Drug Task Force's interdiction team on being named the 2020 Team of the Year by the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area and salute their ongoing dedication to protecting and serving their fellow Tennesseans.

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.