

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 474

By Bowling

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend B. Jeffery Harmon for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference.

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 noteworthy person is B. Jeffery Harmon of Jasper, who was recognized as a leader by his peers and colleagues, and is currently serving his first tenure as the President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference, having previously served as vice president, secretary-treasurer, and as a member of the Executive Committee as well as other committees for the Conference; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference, Mr. Harmon has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to this State; and

WHEREAS, born in Chattanooga in 1962, Mr. Harmon graduated from Sequatchie County High School in 1979 at the age of sixteen. He received his undergraduate degree at the University of Chattanooga in 1983, and obtained his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in Memphis in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harmon was in private practice from 1986 to October 1992, when he accepted the position of Assistant Public Defender in the 12th Judicial District serving Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie counties; and

WHEREAS, in January 2011, Mr. Harmon was appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to serve the citizens of the 12th Judicial District as the District Public Defender and was

subsequently elected in 2012 to serve a two-year term in that position. In 2014, he was re-elected by his fellow citizens to continue serving as the District Public Defender for the 12th Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of his profession and his community, Jeffery Harmon is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association Board of Governors, a past president of the 12th Judicial District Bar Association, and a past president of the Dunlap Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to public service, Mr. Harmon is chairman of the Dunlap Municipal Planning Commission, a former adjunct instructor of American Government at Chattanooga State Community College, and currently serves as a commissioner for the City of Dunlap, having won election in 2009 and re-election in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harmon is a member of the First Baptist Church of Dunlap, which he has served in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Jeffery Harmon is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of twenty-eight years, Kim, and their children, Katie, Maggie, and Ben; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, B. Jeffery Harmon has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the members of the bar and bench, and his community alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend B. Jeffery Harmon for his meritorious service to the good people of the State of Tennessee as the President of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference 2015-2016 and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

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