

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 499

By Robinson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Leon Dickson, Sr., of Memphis on being honored as REALTOR of the Year by Tennessee REALTORS.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in paying tribute to those exemplary professionals who have worked their way to the very pinnacle of their chosen professions; and

WHEREAS, Leon Dickson, Sr., of Memphis was recently selected REALTOR of the Year by Tennessee REALTORS, a most befitting honor that recognizes his career-long dedication to and significant influence in Tennessee's real estate industry; and

WHEREAS, a native Memphian who has served as a REALTOR in that market for twenty-nine years, Mr. Dickson is passionate about real estate; he enjoys assisting sellers in negotiating the sale of their property and helping buyers purchase a perfect home with a loan tailored to their needs; and

WHEREAS, he is currently a licensed broker and owner of BenchMark at Southwind Realtors, LLC, with more than twenty years of active experience; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dickson is active in several professional organizations, including the Memphis Area Association of REALTORS, Tennessee REALTORS, National Association of REALTORS, Memphis Women's Council of REALTORS, and National Association of Real Estate Brokers, and has contributed significantly to each of them; and

WHEREAS, he has rendered astute service to the National Association of REALTORS as a member of its Professional Standards Committee; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Mr. Dickson was selected as the first African-American president in the nearly 100-year history of Tennessee REALTORS, having previously served the

organization as president-elect in 2017, secretary-treasurer in 2016, and division vice president in 2013 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, he is also a valuable trustee, director, and member of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Tennessee Real Estate Education Foundation; and

WHEREAS, a REALTOR of the greatest integrity and expertise, Mr. Dickson holds designations as an Accredited Buyer's Representative, Accredited Buyer's Representative Manager, Certified Real Estate Specialist, Certified Real Estate Broker, Graduate of Real Estate Institute, and the e-PRO Certificate for Internet Professionalism; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his most recent accolade, he was honored by the Memphis Area Association of REALTORS as REALTOR of the Year in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dickson is deeply engaged with his community and volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, Youth Villages, Hopeworks, and Germanshire Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, he also serves as an elder, oversees several ministry areas, and teaches a Sunday School class at South Germantown Road Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Dickson is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Mary Joyce, and three wonderful children, Leon, Jr., Morgan, and his dog, Layla; and

WHEREAS, Leon Dickson, Sr., has distinguished himself as a REALTOR upon whom both sellers and buyers can rely for the most conscientious and ethical service, and he is 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 recognize Leon Dickson, Sr., of Memphis on being selected REALTOR of the Year by Tennessee REALTORS and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success 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.