

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 566

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend George Morton Googe on his distinguished service to the State of Tennessee as the District Public Defender for the 26th Judicial District on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers in public service; and

WHEREAS, George Morton Googe is one such estimable person, who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, elected to his first term on August 2, 1990, George Googe served with distinction as the District Public Defender for the 26th Judicial District for more than thirty years before taking his much-deserved retirement on December 31, 2020, and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Jackson, Mr. Googe received his undergraduate degree from Union University in 1974 and earned his Juris Doctorate from the Memphis State University School of Law in 1978; and

WHEREAS, prior to joining the public defender's office, he practiced civil and criminal law for eleven years, handling more than fifty Circuit Court criminal trials, and argued cases before the Tennessee Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals; he was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court and served as a substitute judge in General Sessions Court and City Court; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Googe has been a member of the North Jackson Church of Christ and the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce; chairman of the Volunteer Advisory Board of the Department of Corrections in Madison County; vice president of the local Federation of Musicians; and block captain of the Skyview Estates Neighborhood Watch Program; and

WHEREAS, a talented musician, Mr. Googe is currently the timpanist for the Jackson Area Community Band and has volunteered his time and talents at the Casey Jones Museum and the Depot Museum on South Royal in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, devoted to his family, George Googe enjoys the love and support of his wife, Becky; their two children, Wendy and Charles; and their three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, George Googe exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, George Googe demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of members of the bar and bench and his community alike; 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 commend George Morton Googe on his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as the District Public Defender for the 26th Judicial District and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

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.