

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 572

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the members of the McNairy County Landowners Forestry Association upon being named the 2013 County Forestry Association of the Year by the Tennessee Forestry Association.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially recognize those outstanding citizens of our State who have committed themselves to sustaining the renewable natural resources of Tennessee in a manner that provides economic enrichment while preserving valuable resources and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, such dedicated conservationists comprise the membership of the McNairy County Landowners Forestry Association (MCLFA), which was recently named the 2013 County Forestry Association of the Year by the Tennessee Forestry Association; and

WHEREAS, McNairy County held the first County Forestry Association interest meeting in Tennessee when it was organized in 1998 to educate forest landowners about sound forestry practices and to promote forestry in the county; and

WHEREAS, today, the McNairy County Landowners Forestry Association has the largest membership among county forestry associations in Tennessee; the group has grown from the original sixty-six landowners to over 150 active and energetic members; and

WHEREAS, the group is led by association president Paul Pickens, the founding president of the association, who has since returned to the position due to his dedication to management principles for sound practices and valuable timberland growth; and

WHEREAS, the forests of McNairy County have been vital to the growth and continuing prosperity of McNairy County; the members of the McNairy County Landowners Forestry Association have a great desire to protect and manage this great resource to provide jobs,

recreation, and products for McNairy County and to serve as an example of good forest stewards; and

WHEREAS, the McNairy Forestry Association has been named the number one County Forestry Association three times, a sign of its continued success in its mission; and

WHEREAS, the association has benefited from the unwavering support and sponsorship of various local businesses including McNairy Co-Op, Packaging Corp of America, Pickens & Associates, New Page, A G & N AG Supply, Hanks Forest Products, White Oak Shell, and Price Sawmill, as well as local banks including Bancorp South, Home Banking, Community South of Selmer, and Central Bank of Adamsville; and

WHEREAS, the McNairy group has participated in logging and equipment shows, and they have been present at many Legislative Days in Nashville, spending hours airing important concerns and comments regarding legislation and issues relating to tree farmers, loggers, and mills in their local area; and

WHEREAS, successfully balancing their great concern for economic needs and environmental stewardship, the members of this association are the fitting recipients of the 2013 County Forestry Association of the Year award, and it is appropriate that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor this outstanding organization; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the members of the McNairy County Landowners Forestry Association upon being named the 2013 County Forestry Association of the Year, thank them for their dedicated and thorough understanding of our State's precious renewable resources, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in making a positive impact on the forestland and wildlife habitat of McNairy County and across Tennessee for years to come.

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