

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 588

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Edward Carmon Kerley for meritorious service to this country.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of these brave soldiers must never be forgotten, as their efforts made possible the exemplary quality of life that is enjoyed by the citizens of Tennessee today; and

WHEREAS, Edward Carmon "Ed" Kerley is one such individual who, throughout his impressive military career, served with unwavering dedication and fortitude, rising to meet all challenges in his path; and

WHEREAS, born in Cumberland County on August 8, 1927, Mr. Kerley honorably answered the call to military service and enlisted in the United States Navy on August 31, 1944; and

WHEREAS, Ed Kerley served with the courage and conviction of a true patriot aboard the USS Tennessee and displayed fearless heroism during many engagements in the Pacific Theater of Operations, including at the legendary battles of Okinawa and Iwo Jima, where his ship was attacked by Japanese Kamikaze pilots; and

WHEREAS, after separating from the Navy as a Seaman 2nd Class in August of 1946, Mr. Ed Kerley rendered sterling service as a member of the United States Air Force for many years; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious military career, Ed Kerley performed his duties with the utmost skill, dedication, and professionalism, and his service can only be categorized as outstanding; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Kerley served his country with great courage and gallantry, and his bravery and fortitude are wholly deserving of proper recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ed Kerley's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow veterans, and his country stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Edward Carmon Kerley for his meritorious service as a member of the United States Air Force and the United States Navy, offering our thanks for a difficult job well done and applauding his bravery in the face of the gravest dangers.

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