

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 627

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to recognize Ryan Kirst, a recipient of the 2014 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to recognize those estimable citizens of this State, both young and old, who consistently demonstrate a personal commitment to improve the lives and well-being of others; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Kirst, a resident of Maryville and a student at Carpenters Middle School, has achieved national recognition for his exemplary volunteer service, garnering a 2014 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kirst earned this award by giving generously of his time and energy to fellow students and the community in multiple capacities, including being a peer teacher as selected by his own teachers, assistant coach for younger players in both basketball and football, delivering food to the hungry, and traveling on mission trips with a choir group to visit juvenile detention centers, homeless shelters, and domestic violence facilities to sing songs of hope and praise; and

WHEREAS, as a recipient of this award and one of the top two youths selected from Tennessee, Ryan Kirst received a \$1,000 cash prize, a silver medallion, and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for a four-day national recognition event with the top two honorees from the other states; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Mr. Ryan Kirst who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting that this legislative body give recognition and express gratitude for the vitality, altruism, and tremendous determination of young Tennesseans such as Mr. Kirst, who truly are shining stars on the horizon of our State's future; 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 congratulate 2014 Prudential Spirit of Community Award recipient Ryan Kirst, recognize his outstanding volunteerism in his community, and wish him every 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.