

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 780

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Richard "Dick" Ray upon his receipt of the Community Leadership Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Richard "Dick" Ray, who has been selected to receive the Community Leadership Award; and

WHEREAS, a highly distinguished businessman, Mr. Ray served for fifteen years as operations manager of the Aluminum Company of America's (ALCOA Inc.) Tennessee operations before his retirement in 1993; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure as operations manager of one of ALCOA's largest and oldest plant locations, Dick Ray oversaw the company's investment of more than \$400 million to modernize the plant to make it the most modern aluminum rolling facility in the world; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ray's leadership played an integral role in the facility remaining in Tennessee as he skillfully organized the effort that provided the detailed information and solutions to ALCOA that showcased the advantages of upgrading the plant operations to the benefit of the company and the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, Dick Ray holds a degree in metallurgical engineering from the University of Alabama and began his career with ALCOA in 1953, working at Tennessee Operations before later holding positions at Davenport, Iowa; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Point Henry, Australia; and

WHEREAS, a past president of Alcoa Kiwanis, Dick Ray has also been deeply involved in public service, committing his time and energies to a number of boards and agencies. He was a longtime member of the State Board of Education and a commissioner of the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority; and

WHEREAS, a champion for economic development, Mr. Ray served as head of the Southeastern United States-Japan Association, which promotes trade with Japan, and chaired the Tennessee delegation of the Southeast United States-Japan Trade Organization; and

WHEREAS, Dick Ray epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Dick Ray for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Richard "Dick" Ray upon his receipt of the Community Leadership Award, applaud his untiring efforts toward improving his community and this State, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success in 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.