

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 796

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Edward Eugene Durham on the celebration of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pay tribute to those citizens who have celebrated special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Edward Eugene Durham celebrated his ninetieth birthday on March 19, 2016, a milestone that was commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected citizen of Lewis County, Gene Durham served as a teacher at the high school and college level for forty years. He was one of the original instructors at Columbia State Community College when it opened in 1966; and

WHEREAS, a member of this Nation's "Greatest Generation," Mr. Durham served in the United States Army Air Force between 1944 and 1946, having been trained as a bomber machine gunner. He was stationed in Germany at the end of World War II; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Durham has also served as a minister of the Gospel during his entire adult life and continues to preach at various churches in Tennessee. He has been a servant and encourager to all he has come in contact with through his ministry; and

WHEREAS, Gene Durham is also a talented vocalist and musician who has entertained thousands with his guitar and his singing; and

WHEREAS, a devoted husband and father, Gene Durham enjoys the love and support of his wife of sixty-six years, Hilda, and their three children, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as Mr. Durham approaches his tenth decade, he is still an active and productive member of society, participating in various civic and community events; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; 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 hereby honor and congratulate Edward Eugene Durham on the celebration of his ninetieth birthday and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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