

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 834

By Bell

A RESOLUTION to commend Joshua Michael Anderson for exemplary service as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session, this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Michael Anderson is one such individual, who has distinguished himself in his role as a legislative intern for Senator Mike Bell and the Senate Government Operations Committee; Joshua's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, born on June 11, 1996, in Chattanooga, Mr. Anderson is the son of the Reverend John Anderson and Susan Anderson; at the age of two, he moved with his family to the Tri-Cities area of Northeast Tennessee, where his father was assigned to serve as a pastor to a local Methodist Church in Blountville; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Anderson began his school career in Blountville schools and his scouting career in the local Cub Scouts unit; after several years, he and his family relocated to Dayton, where he began middle school at Dayton City School and played trumpet in the school's band. It was at this time that his interest in history and the governmental process began; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Anderson first served as a page for Representative Jim Cobb when he was in the seventh grade, while his father served as Chaplain of the Day; Joshua became very interested in the Tennessee legislative process and continued to return to Nashville, serving as a page in the House of Representatives and Senate during his spring breaks; and

WHEREAS, he and his family then relocated to Kingston, where he attended Roane County High School and continued his career with the Boy Scouts, attaining the rank of Eagle

Scout, the highest rank in the program; he was also a member of the high school band, president of the Young Republicans, and a Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the Senate of the Tennessee American Legion Boys State. He went on to graduate with honors; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Anderson earned his associate degree at Pellissippi State Community College, where he served as president of the student government association, was appointed to serve on several administrative boards and committees, and served as Bible study leader with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, he continued his education at Maryville College, where he is currently a political science major; he has continued his service in the school's student government association and founded the Maryville College Republicans Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Anderson met his fiancée, Molly Ridgeway, at Maryville College; together, the two authored and advocated for legislation in the Tennessee General Assembly that would allow American Sign Language to fulfill foreign language requirements for high school graduation; the legislation passed unanimously and was signed into law by Governor Haslam; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, he served as an intern in the Tennessee Secretary of State's office, where he was assigned to serve as a law clerk to the administrative law judges; the following year, Joshua Anderson helped Senator Massey pass legislation that would allow American Sign Language to fulfill foreign language requirements for acceptance to state institutions of higher education; the bill became Chapter 546 of the Public Acts of 2018; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Anderson will graduate with his bachelor's degree in May 2018, and he and Molly Ridgeway will be married on June 16, 2018; following their wedding, he plans to attend law school, and she plans to attend graduate school, majoring in special education; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the characteristics and complexities of Tennessee state government and to further his studies, Joshua Anderson brought his many abilities and singular expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2018 session of the One Hundred Tenth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2018 legislative session, Joshua Anderson has surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious legislative intern; he was always ready to help with any task, and he deftly handled every assignment that was given to him; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Anderson has performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; he is an impressive individual with a bright future ahead of him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Joshua Michael Anderson for outstanding service as a legislative intern for Senator Mike Bell and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

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