

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 838

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to commend Earle King for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Earle King is one such estimable person who, after thirty years of dedicated service, is taking a much-deserved retirement from the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency (ETHRA); and

WHEREAS, Earle King and his wife, Anita, began volunteering for ETHRA's Ombudsman Program while he was still working as a plant manager for Burlington Textiles; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Mr. King was hired to recruit and train volunteers for the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program in ETHRA's Aging and Disability Division; he subsequently transferred to the Public Guardianship Program to perform the same type of work; and

WHEREAS, when Mr. King began his tenure with ETHRA, his wife, Anita, continued volunteering with the agency and has now worked alongside her husband for thirty years, donating over 25,000 hours to ETHRA; and

WHEREAS, the Kings met in Anita's native Germany in 1952, while Mr. King was stationed there for military service; they entered the holy bonds of matrimony in 1954 and moved to Harriman, where they have lived in the same house ever since, and continue to serve their community in many roles; and

WHEREAS, Earle and Anita King have recruited and trained thousands of volunteers and visited thousands of elderly clients over the past thirty years; and

WHEREAS, they tirelessly visit elderly clients who receive services through the East Tennessee Public Guardianship Office in sixteen counties, attending care plan meetings and

physician visits with clients to make certain that all their needs are addressed and met and working in concert with the District Public Guardian and other staff within the department and the agency; and

WHEREAS, the Kings comfort and enliven their elderly clients and often go beyond the call of duty to fulfill their needs; their regular presence assures the clients that someone cares about them; and

WHEREAS, Earle King has given thirty years of his life to protecting the most vulnerable adults in our communities, and he truly epitomizes the volunteer spirit of the State of Tennessee; 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 Earle King for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as a volunteer and employee of the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency and extend to him our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

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