

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1226

By Stevens

A RESOLUTION to recognize Lieutenant Steve Russell of the Tennessee Highway Patrol on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal concerns to ensure the public's safety and welfare, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty in service of public safety; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued the time-honored tradition of service in law enforcement, dedicating their time and efforts to aiding those in emergency situations and apprehending those who have broken the law; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Steve Russell of the Tennessee Highway Patrol is one such courageous public servant, who took his well-deserved retirement on January 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Russell began his career with the Henry County Sheriff's Department, where he served for three and one-half years; during his time as a deputy, he almost lost his life when he was shot in the face in the line of duty, and he still has shotgun pellets in his face to this day; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Steve Russell joined the Tennessee Highway Patrol in 1983 and worked motor vehicle accidents and emergency situations until 1989, when he became a criminal investigator. He was promoted to sergeant of Weakley and Gibson counties for Troop B in 1996 and was promoted again in 1999 to the rank of lieutenant for Troop B; he retired as the lieutenant for Troop C in Carroll, Benton, and Henry counties after an illustrious forty-year career in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, a resident of McKenzie, Lieutenant Russell is grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife of thirty-five years, Cherry Murray Russell; his sons and

daughters-in-law, Dr. Travis and Dr. Bethany Russell and Lee and Mandi Russell; and his grandchildren, Piper and Connor; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as Lieutenant Russell, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Russell epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and his professionalism and dedication are evident to all who know him; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud Lieutenant Steve Russell for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute leadership in the Tennessee Highway Patrol; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we thank Lieutenant Steve Russell for his meritorious service to the citizens of this State and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.