

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1263

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Herbert King for his lifetime of meritorious service to the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry and public service and have dedicated their efforts to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable person is Herbert King of Washington County, who has been a pillar of the Johnson City community for many years; and

WHEREAS, the son of Martha Jane Williams and Lewis H. King, Herbert King was born on July 14, 1920, in Campbell County, where he was raised along with his three brothers and three sisters; of the seven children, only he and his sister, Myrtle Evans, survive; and

WHEREAS, attending various one-room elementary schools while growing up in rural Campbell County, Herb King had to travel to Jellico to attend high school, graduating in 1941; and

WHEREAS, Mr. King enrolled in East Tennessee State College and was there only a few months before being called to serve his country in World War II, whereupon he left school to join the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, honorably discharged in 1946, Herb King served with distinction during World War II, seeing duty in New Guinea, the Philippines, and the Pacific Theatre, and received a number of ribbons and commendation medals for his actions; and

WHEREAS, returning to East Tennessee State College, Mr. King worked at the bookstore and school post office while completing his studies and started a young Republicans club on campus that is still active to this day; and

WHEREAS, Herb King obtained his college degree on June 3, 1949, but enjoyed an even greater moment in his life the very next day when he married his beloved college sweetheart, Ruth; and

WHEREAS, even before he completed his Bachelor of Science degree requirements in 1949, Herb King was offered the position of manager of the bookstore by the school president; he subsequently accepted the post and went on to establish the first self-service bookstore on campus before leaving in 1960; and

WHEREAS, in 1961, Herb King began a distinguished teaching career with the Washington County school system, which ultimately saw him serve as a principal at two schools; teaching during the day, he attended school at night to eventually obtain a master's degree in Education; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching, Mr. King also enjoyed great success as a basketball coach, and during summer breaks he worked for the Johnson City Parks and Recreation Board supervising sports activities and coaching all sports; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his community, he has been active in numerous service clubs and organizations and is currently, along with his wife, Ruth, a member of the Washington County Republican Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. King is a member of Central Baptist Church in Johnson City, which he has served faithfully as treasurer of his Sunday School class for many years; Mr. and Mrs. King both enjoy traveling with the seniors group at their church and spending time with their family; and

WHEREAS, in June 2008, Mr. King fulfilled a longtime wish to travel to Normandy, France, and honor his younger brother, Lewis H. King, Jr., who is buried at the American Cemetery, having lost his life in 1944 during the Allied invasion of Normandy; and

WHEREAS, Herb King's outstanding success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and an uncommon ability to work well with people of all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. King is a superb individual who epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. King is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his wife, Ruth, and their four children, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Herb King has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his fellow citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize Herbert King for his lifetime of service to the citizens of Johnson City and Washington County, applaud his dedication to excellence, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

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