

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1676

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of George P. Jaynes of Limestone.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of George P. Jaynes; and

WHEREAS, George Jaynes was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, farmer, businessman, salesman, volunteer fireman, store owner, and public official who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Limestone, Mr. Jaynes was born on July 28, 1941, to Clarence and Daisy Jaynes; he attended Washington College, graduating in 1960; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, George Jaynes married Sandra "Sandy" Fox, also of Limestone, and the couple worked side by side on their tobacco and cattle farm; Mr. Jaynes also enjoyed a successful career as a car salesman; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded members of their community, Mr. and Mrs. Jaynes owned and operated Jaynes Market in downtown Limestone for thirteen years; the store included a fully functioning butcher shop and fresh produce, and patrons from around the area would frequent the business; and

WHEREAS, George Jaynes began his career in public service in 1972, when he was elected to serve with the Washington County Commission; his thirty-eight years of elected service to the people of Washington County included the role of County Executive/Mayor, to which office he was elected in 1986; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as County Executive/Mayor, Mr. Jaynes worked with governors, senators, congressmen, State legislators, and county and city officials, as well as 119 different county commissioners, for the betterment of Washington County; he was a straight

shooter who never let politics get in the way of getting things done, and he treated everyone equally; and

WHEREAS, the fruits of his tenure include a strengthened relationship between Johnson City and Jonesborough, the creation of the Washington County Industrial Park, and enhanced public safety; fire, police, and emergency departments were a priority in his administration, and in the early years, he himself served as a member of the Limestone Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, he also worked diligently on the development of a new criminal justice center and was humbled when the resultant edifice was named in his honor in 2009; and

WHEREAS, in his capacity as County Executive/Mayor, George Jaynes was an active member of the boards of the First Tennessee Development District, Alliance for Business and Training, First Tennessee Human Resource Agency, Mountain States Health Alliance, Tri-Cities Airport, the Washington/Johnson City EMS, and Washington County Emergency Communications District; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, Mr. Jaynes retired to the family cattle farm; following his retirement, he was appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to serve on the Tennessee Ethics Commission and the East Tennessee State University Government Relations Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jaynes was a devout member of New Salem Baptist Church in Limestone, where he taught Sunday School and led men's fellowship; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, George Jaynes will be sadly mourned but fondly remembered by his wife of fifty-nine years, Sandy Jaynes; children, Patrick (Jill) Jaynes and Tim (Kellie) Jaynes; grandchildren, Grayson Jaynes and Andrew Jaynes; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, Mr. Jaynes was preceded in death by his siblings, Bea (Dallas) Jones, Marlin (Frances) Jaynes, Dallas (Dorothy) Jaynes, Agnes (Clifford) Jones, Lillian (Stanley) Curtis, and Argent (Jack) Arwood; and

WHEREAS, George Jaynes leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of George P. Jaynes, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Jaynes.

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.