

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 546
By Cobb

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Joe T. Walker for
laudable service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, Tennessee's doctors make invaluable contributions to the quality of our lives and provide us with the finest of medical care, manifesting at all times their knowledge, skill, training, and compassion; and

WHEREAS, mindful of the indispensable role played by doctors, the members of this General Assembly are proud to honor Dr. Joe T. Walker, for his professional excellence and ongoing commitment to the best in health care; and

WHEREAS, upon graduating from Coffee County High School, Dr. Walker matriculated at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, from which school he graduated in 1948; and

WHEREAS, he earned a dental degree from the University of Tennessee in 1951, and has been practicing dentistry since that time; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Dr. Walker opened the first privately-owned nursing home in Rutherford County; throughout his career, he has been involved in the development of seven nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, he presently owns and operates Boulevard Terrace Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Murfreesboro, and Glen Oaks Convalescent Center and Glen Oaks Enterprises in Shelbyville, and he is partial owner of Northside Healthcare Center in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, Glen Oaks Convalescent Center was opened in 1978 with 100 beds; since that time, Dr. Walker has overseen the addition of thirty beds, six retirement apartments, and a nine-bed residential home for the aged; and

WHEREAS, throughout his years in dentistry and the long-term care profession, Dr. Walker has been extremely active in the professional organizations of both; and

WHEREAS, he has been a member and served as President of the Tennessee Health Care Association, the Murfreesboro Dental Society, the Fourth District Dental Society, the Tennessee Dental Association, and the Middle Tennessee Study Club; he has also served on a number of state boards and commissions to improve the quality of health care in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in addition, he is an active member of the American Dental Association, the American College of Dentistry, the International College of Dentistry, and the Southern Regional Testing Agency; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Walker has also served the Tennessee Dental Association as Chairman of the Council on Dental Health, Chairman of the Continuing Education Committee, Chairman of the Council on Annual Sessions, and an Alternate Delegate to the American Dental Association; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Elizabeth, and their five children; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Walker epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and he should be specially recognized; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Dr. Joe T. Walker for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Dr. Joe T. Walker for his meritorious service to the state of Tennessee, express our admiration and appreciation for his dedication to professional excellence and his stalwart commitment to the delivery of compassionate and effective health care services, 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.