

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1187

By Matheny

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the members of
Tennessee Chapter IX of the Police Unity Tour.

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws, and the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals; and

WHEREAS, these individuals, known as law enforcement officers, daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, each year a significant number of these courageous officers give their lives in the name of the State of Tennessee while protecting their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly specially recognize those estimable organizations that honor and support the brave men and women in uniform; and

WHEREAS, the Police Unity Tour is one such estimable event which recognizes and honors the immeasurable contributions and sacrifices law enforcement officers have made in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, the Police Unity Tour is a national event where police officers across the Nation honor their fallen colleagues by bicycling to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1997 by Officer Patrick Montuore, the Police Unity Tour raises money for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial (NLEOM) Fund; and

WHEREAS, in the inaugural bicycle ride to Washington, D.C., fourteen New Jersey police officers traversed over 300 miles, honoring the memory of their fallen colleagues and raising \$18,000 for the NLEOM Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Police Unity Tour seeks to raise monetary support for and awareness of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial; honors the service and sacrifice of America's law enforcement officers; provides assistance and support to family members of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; encourages and increases physical fitness levels of participating law enforcement officers; increases communication amongst law enforcement professionals; and provides educational training to citizens in the community in bicycle safety and use; and

WHEREAS, since 1997, the memorial bicycle ride has grown into an annual event, and the Police Unity Tour has developed into a national organization; the Police Unity Tour has donated nearly a million dollars to the NLEOM Fund, making it the largest private/corporate sponsor of the memorial; and

WHEREAS, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was dedicated in 1991 by President George Bush to honor all of America's federal, state, and local law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service of the common good; the names of more than 16,000 officers who have been killed in the line of duty are engraved on the memorial; and

WHEREAS, joining in this honorable endeavor, Chapter IX of Tennessee will send sixteen police officers on its chapter's inaugural ride to Washington, D.C., during National Peace Officers Week 2006; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that those officers who have dedicated their lives to the service of humanity through law enforcement and those officers who have given their lives in this noble cause be recognized and remembered for the accomplishment of their high purposes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the members of Chapter IX of Tennessee for donating their time and resources to the Police Unity Tour, recognize their brave and valiant service in the line of duty, and wish them every success in all 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.