

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1355
By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to commend Sam D. Kennedy for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a journalist and an attorney.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Sam D. Kennedy is one such admirable person who was recently selected to receive the Maury County Bar Association's Liberty Bell Award in a Law Day ceremony at the Maury County Courthouse; the award is presented annually to a civic-minded individual who the Association believes has made a significant contribution to the community, and Mr. Kennedy was selected not only for his years of service to the legal profession, but also for his work in service to Maury County and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, evincing the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors, Mr. Kennedy is highly respected in his community for his exceptional work as a journalist and as an attorney; and

WHEREAS, the former publisher of *The Columbia Daily Herald* (1965-1983), Sam Kennedy currently publishes the *Advocate*, *The Buffalo River Review* in Linden and the *Waverly News Democrat*; in his early legal career, he was the youngest-ever General Sessions Judge in Maury County and later became the county's youngest District Attorney; he further served his community as Maury County Executive from 1990 to 1994; and

WHEREAS, having served as a member of several local, state, and national boards in both his capacity as a journalist and as an attorney, Mr. Kennedy continues to serve on the boards of the Natchez Trace Parkway and the Frank Clement Foundation and as a member of the South Central Tennessee Workforce Board; and

WHEREAS, Sam Kennedy grew up near Hampshire in the Kettle Mills community, the fifth of eight children; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments notwithstanding, Mr. Kennedy is grateful for the loving support of his wife, the former Betty Finney, with whom he resides in Columbia; their marriage has been blessed with two children and five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Sam Kennedy has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Sam Kennedy's remarkable 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, as well as his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kennedy is an extremely giving person who reaches out with compassion to all people, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Sam Kennedy is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; 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 hereby commend Sam D. Kennedy of Columbia for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as an attorney and a journalist and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

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