

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 681

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. William Harry Hill upon the occasion of his induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor a remarkable professional who has rendered valuable service to the Tennessee Walking Horse industry, one of the Volunteer State's largest and most successful enterprises in terms of agriculture, commerce, tourism, and equine sports; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration is the premier event for the Tennessee Walking Horse; spanning eleven days and nights prior to Labor Day and encompassing exciting competition, the Celebration annually awards more than \$650,000 in prize money and crowns the breed's World Grand Champion and some twenty World Champions; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration (TWHNC) will be inducting a select group of worthy individuals in the TWHNC Hall of Fame during a gala evening at Calsonic Arena on the Celebration grounds in Shelbyville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the TWHNC Hall of Fame ceremony is held biennially to specially honor and recognize those sterling professionals who "have made significant and outstanding contributions to the Walking Horse industry and the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration" during "fifteen or more years involvement with the breed"; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary 2008 class of TWHNC Hall of Fame inductees most appropriately includes Dr. William Harry (W.H.) Hill, who has served the Walking Horse industry with distinction in numerous capacities since he was thirteen years old; and

WHEREAS, when he was a schoolboy, Dr. Hill had an American Saddlebred horse and he rode him to school and on many errands; and

WHEREAS, after he graduated from high school, Dr. W.H. Hill continued his education at the University of Georgia and the Medical College of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, after completing his medical internship, Dr. Hill courageously served this country throughout World War II, during which he valiantly served at a portable hospital in the South Pacific and participated in three combat landings with the infantry, one in the Philippines and two in New Guinea; after the war, he remained active in the Army Reserves for twenty years, from which he retired with the permanent rank of Colonel; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hill rendered forty-one peerless years in general surgery in Atlanta, Georgia, before deservedly retiring; he now devotes his time and talents to working on his farm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. W.H. Hill appreciates the disposition of the Walking Horse and has enjoyed riding and raising them; he fondly remembers some of his more noteworthy horses, such as Hillgrove's Go Boy, Doc's Choice, Delight's Cold Ice, Senator's Lady Delight, The Man In Charge, Neon Bright, Magic Lined, and Cash's All Star; and

WHEREAS, a long-time owner and exhibitor in the Walking Horse industry, Dr. Hill feels blessed to be able to ride a Walking Horse, and he had the tremendous distinction of winning a blue ribbon at the 2007 Celebration at the age of ninety; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work with Walking Horses, Dr. W.H. Hill still finds time to lend his amazing talents to such notable causes as teaching Sunday school for forty-five years, which he has done and rendering astute service on a number of boards; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hill is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of more than sixty years, Harriet; and

WHEREAS, by means of his induction into the TWHNC Hall of Fame, Dr. W.H. Hill has earned the ultimate accolade given by the Walking Horse industry, and we should pay homage to his life of purpose, commitment, and accomplishment on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby acknowledge and commend Dr. William Harry Hill on the

occasion of his induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame, commend him for his sterling service to the Walking Horse industry and the State of Tennessee, 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.