

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 640

By Cobb J

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate James C. Thurman, Sr., upon being named "American Legion Department of Tennessee 2009 Legionnaire of the Year."

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those intrepid and dedicated individuals whose efforts within their communities serve as an inspiration to those around them; and

WHEREAS, James C. Thurman, Sr., is one such individual, who will be recognized by the American Legion as the organization's "American Legion Department of Tennessee 2009 Legionnaire of the Year" at a special ceremony on Saturday, June 27, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thurman is a proud lifetime member of American Legion Auxiliary Post 203 in Spring City; and

WHEREAS, born on June 11, 1931, to Grover and Bertie Thurman, James Thurman was reared in Rhea County, where he attended school in Spring City; and

WHEREAS, a man deeply devoted to his country, James Thurman joined the United States Army in 1950 and rendered sterling service in the Korean War, rising to the rank of Sergeant First Class before receiving his honorable discharge in 1953; and

WHEREAS, on February 22, 1953, he was joined in holy matrimony to his beloved wife, Helen Swafford, and to this blessed union were born five children, Earl, Sherry, Debbie, Jim, and Tammy; and

WHEREAS, an assiduous employee with a hardworking nature, James Thurman worked for Tennessee Valley Authority from 1954 until 1958, when he moved to Ohio and founded his own trucking business, J.T. Trucking; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thurman took a much deserved retirement in 1986; since then, he has given his time and many talents to the American Legion and other civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, he served as a Commander in the American Legion for twelve years; in addition to his work within the Legion, James Thurman is a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a former commissioner for little league baseball, and a sponsor of several baseball teams in Ohio; he volunteers his time and money to support veterans, and he delivers food to the Ronald McDonald House and the Chattanooga Veterans Affairs Center; and

WHEREAS, James C. Thurman, Sr., is a sterling example of the public servant hallowed by Tennesseans, and it is proper that he be formally recognized for his dedication to the American Legion and his unwavering commitment to community service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate James C. Thurman, Sr., upon being named "American Legion Department of Tennessee 2009 Legionnaire of the Year," commend his tireless dedication to his community, and offer our deepest levels of gratitude for his service.

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