

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 915

By Maddox

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Tom and Judy Spence on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, after meeting at Dresden High School in 1959, Tom and Judy Spence exchanged wedding vows on April 8, 1960, and since that blessed day they have faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Spence have been highly respected citizens of their community for many years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, serving with the utmost character and probity in all his chosen endeavors, Tom Spence worked for his father at Spence's Automotive in Dresden before his employment with Reelfoot Packing Company in Union City; returning to Dresden in 1966, he was employed by Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company until his retirement in 2004 after thirty-one years of dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, retiring after twenty-five years of exemplary employment with Hillview Nursing Home in Dresden, Judy Spence embarked on a new career with Ron Lewellen State Farm, earning the admiration and respect of her colleagues and superiors alike for the exceptional quality of her work until her retirement in 2009; and

WHEREAS, since their retirement, the happy couple have enjoyed spending time with their family and friends, and participating in their many and varied interests, especially fishing on Kentucky Lake and surrounding tributaries as often as they can; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Spence are active and devout members of Mack's Grove Baptist Church, which Mr. Spence serves faithfully as the church treasurer and deacon; Mr. and Mrs. Spence also served as directors of the church's Vacation Bible School and as Sunday school teachers for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in their community, the couple have participated in several noteworthy organizations and community events, including the Jaycees, the Jaycettes, and the Society of Freemasons; Judy Spence has volunteered countless hours and dedicated service to the Miss Weakley County Pageant and Tom Spence serves as treasurer and former master of Dresden Masonic Lodge #90; and

WHEREAS, this wonderful couple are the proud parents of two devoted daughters, Janet Spence Peeler and Kimberly Dawn Spence Bradberry, and the doting grandparents of four treasured grandchildren, Kayla René Peeler, Christopher Thomas-Neal Peeler, William Lucas Quinton, and Dillon Thomas Quinton; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Spence's truly represent the best and brightest of our society, as they remind us of the intrinsic value of continuity and commitment in this ever changing world; 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 hereby join with the family and friends of Tom and Judy Spence in celebrating this exemplary couple's 50th wedding anniversary and extend to Mr. and Mrs. Spence our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

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