

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1057

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to recognize Webb F. Banks on the occasion of his retirement as the mayor of the City of Brownsville.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Webb F. Banks is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for sixteen years as the mayor of the City of Brownsville; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Banks, currently in his fourth term as mayor, will be taking a much deserved retirement in July of this year; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Webb School in Bell Buckle, Webb Banks earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business from the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, a valorous and honorable citizen of these United States, Mayor Banks dedicated twenty-two years of unwavering service to the United States Air Force. He joined the Air Force in 1955 and retired at the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1977; and

WHEREAS, during his career as an Air Force officer, Webb Banks rendered sterling service as the Chief of Logistics for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations in Washington, D.C., served as Chief Negotiator for Wartime Agreements between the United States and six European nations, and served in Vietnam; Webb Banks earned numerous decorations, among them the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Banks was chosen as the Air Force's Outstanding Supply Officer of the Year four times and, during his years in Washington, appeared before four Congressional sub-committees and two committees; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement from the Air Force, Webb Banks embarked upon a new career: that of president of Banks Railroad Salvage, Inc., a position he fulfilled with acumen and alacrity from 1977 until 1994; and

WHEREAS, first elected by the good people of Brownsville in 1994 and since entrusted by the populace with the care of the city, Mayor Banks has ushered in a number of changes and cultivated positive growth during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, under Webb Banks's guidance and leadership, the City of Brownsville has installed the first Retail Incentive Program in West Tennessee; cultivated one of the lowest ISO Fire Ratings in the State; constructed a new fire station on Highway 54; established the West Tennessee Delta Welcome Center; widened Anderson Avenue to four lanes; completed Project 20/20, which establishes long-rang plans for Brownsville and Haywood County; established the Tourism Program; and embarked upon the Downtown Renovation Program, which has resulted in the renovation of thirty-seven buildings; and

WHEREAS, since becoming mayor, Webb Banks has also secured thirteen new industries; obtained more than \$38 million in grants for infrastructure and development projects; opened the Whiteville/Brownsville branch of the Tennessee Technology Center; assisted with the development of the TVA-certified mega site; played a role in the establishment of the Regional Program for Economic Development, the first of its kind to be established in the area; and entered into membership with Southwest Tennessee Educational Pathways; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mayor Banks was chosen as the "Man of the Year" by the Brownsville/Haywood County Chamber of Commerce, was named as the 2006 Mayor of the Year by the Tennessee Municipal League, and received the WestStar Jimmy Daniels Make a Difference Award; and

WHEREAS, Webb Banks has contributed his time and numerous talents to the Tennessee Municipal League, serving as that organization's officer and director; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Banks exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean. He is perhaps proudest of the love and support he shares with his wife, Steva Barcroft Banks, and their six children; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Webb Banks has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the good people of Brownsville; 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 extend to Mayor Webb F. Banks our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his 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.