

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 967

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to commend Larry D. Williams for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

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, Larry D. Williams is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary thirty-four years of service in public safety and thirty-two years of service in the United States Army, Larry Williams has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of New River Community College, Mr. Williams earned his Associate of Applied Science degree in Political Science; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams began his career in public safety in 1968, serving as a firefighter in Radford, Virginia, until 1976, when he became a deputy in the Washington County Sheriff's Department; he served in this capacity until 1977; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Harry Williams embarked upon his career as a police officer, rising through the ranks over the years to become Lieutenant Traffic Unit Commander, a position he has held since 1996; and

WHEREAS, devoted to improving his professional expertise, Mr. Williams has completed numerous training programs in the areas of crash investigation, criminal investigation, DUI, emergency vehicle operations, management, and radar/speed enforcement; he holds many instructor certifications and has instructed more than 130 courses in fourteen states for approximately 2,800 officers; and

WHEREAS, Larry Williams is well known for his many professional specialties, including those of Traffic Accident Investigation and Reconstruction, DUI Detection and Enforcement/Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, High Speed Emergency Vehicle Operations, and Radar/Speed Enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Larry Williams is an honorable and valorous citizen of these United States and has dedicated more than three decades to military service; he first joined the United States Army Reserve in 1968, serving for several years as a drill instructor before retiring in 1991 at the rank of sergeant first class; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Mr. Williams joined the Tennessee National Guard and was placed on active duty in 2003 for eighteen months in support of Operation Iraq Freedom; he retired from the National Guard in 2008, completing an impressive military career which spanned thirty-two years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his law enforcement and military careers, Larry Williams has also rendered sterling service as a firefighter, a TSSAA football official, a member of the adjunct faculties of Walters State Community College and the University of North Florida, and a self-employed Crash Investigations Consultant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams is active in many professional and civic organizations, including the Region I Football Officials Association, TSSAA Football Officials Association, the National Association of Professional Accident Reconstruction Specialists, the Society of Traffic Accident Reconstructionists, the Masonic Lodge of Jonesborough, and the Jericho Shrine Temple of Blountville; he is also a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Larry Williams has been recognized for outstanding public and military service by Congressman Phil Roe with a United States flag that was once flown over the United States Capitol, was given a Certificate of Appreciation by Representative Dale Ford and Senator Rusty Crowe, and received Tennessee and United States flags flown over the State Capitol in recognition for outstanding public service; and

WHEREAS, he has also been named as a Colonel Aide to two governors; and

WHEREAS, Larry Williams'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 and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Larry Williams is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his family, including his mother, Frances M. Williams; his daughter, Jessica L. Williams; and his grandsons, Kevin Aldridge and Gaven Aldridge; and

WHEREAS, Larry D. Williams 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Larry D. Williams for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee 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.