

SENATE RESOLUTION 30

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Fentress County Solid Waste on receiving a 2009 Award of Excellence-Most Improved for its participation in the Great American Cleanup.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to recognize those individuals and organizations that work tirelessly to protect the beauty and integrity of Tennessee's natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Fentress County Solid Waste is most assuredly one such organization; it has been recognized recently for its service to Tennessee and the nation with a 2009 Award of Excellence-Most Improved for its efforts during the 2008 Great American Cleanup (GAC); and

WHEREAS, Fentress County Solid Waste is rightfully proud of its record during previous GACs; its employees, the volunteers it has organized, and the funds it has raised have all helped to make possible the successful beautification, solid waste management, and litter prevention projects that are the hallmarks of their yearly GAC effort; and

WHEREAS, Waste Management began planning and organizing for the 2008 GAC shortly after the New Year; soon they had a GAC committee formed, newspaper ads running, and public service announcements airing on local radio stations; and

WHEREAS, thanks to their publicity efforts, Fentress County Solid Waste was able to enlist the aid of a host of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, local government offices became involved in cleanup efforts and flower-planting around the courthouse, the Finance Office, and the Solid Waste office; in addition to this work, informational materials were placed in offices to educate citizens and remind them to avoid littering; and

WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, local garden clubs, local Rotary Clubs, and all six schools in the local school district helped with painting dumpsters, replacing signs, and cleaning parks and school grounds; and

WHEREAS, the schools joined with the Solid Waste team and the University of Tennessee Extension Office to sponsor a cleanup project called "Pridefully Picking Up," which included a contest and a check for the school that conducted the best cleanup; and

WHEREAS, during the GAC, Fentress County Solid Waste also sponsored an appliance pickup, a much-needed service that helps to eliminate the hazards and inconvenience associated with old and unused household appliances; and

WHEREAS in its efforts to clean up the Fentress County area, Solid Waste has received invaluable assistance from a host of generous donors and volunteers, including County Mayor John Mullinix, State Representative John Mark Windle, and United States Congressman and Fentress County Commissioner Lincoln Davis; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the contributions of those esteemed individuals, Solid Waste has benefited from the help of the Fentress Courier, WDEB and WCLC Radio, the Fentress County School System, The Garden Club, Signature Health Systems, Wal-Mart, Save-A-Lot Foods, the Soil Conservation Office, the Fentress County Library, Faith Christian Academy, the Board of Education, the Veterans Administration, and the cities of Jamestown and Allardt; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, Fentress County Solid Waste not only met but exceeded the state-mandated 25 percent recycling goal; having generated significant interest in the community with its free pickup program, Solid Waste reduced its overall waste for the year by 39 percent. They exceeded the four cleanups required, holding sixteen events; and

WHEREAS, Fentress County Solid Waste has made measurable improvements to the quality of the area's natural environment: scrap metal recycling has decreased because, over time, Solid Waste has been able to recycle so much of it, and illegal dumping has been reduced by 52 percent; and

WHEREAS, special credit should be given to Litter Officer Constable Larry Rains, who monitors illegal dumping sites and lends his assistance to Solid Waste whenever litter issues arise; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of Fentress County Solid Waste, its estimable employees, the GAC organizers and all the event's volunteers and donors have helped to make the State of Tennessee a safer, cleaner, and more attractive place to live and visit, and for this the State owes its most heartfelt thanks; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Fentress County Solid Waste on receiving a 2009 Award of Excellence-Most Improved for its participation in the Great American Cleanup, thank that organization, its volunteers, and its donors for their service to the State, and wish them much continued success in their 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.