

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 622

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Rees Skillern of Soddy Daisy.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Rees Skillern; and

WHEREAS, Rees Skillern was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skillern served with acumen and alacrity as owner of the Dixie Souvenirs Company, in which position he earned the respect of his colleagues and employees alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a lifetime resident of Soddy Daisy, Rees Skillern graduated from Soddy Daisy High School, where he played football; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Mr. Skillern attended the University of the South in Sewanee before joining the family business; and

WHEREAS, after fifteen years of demonstrating his strong leadership and development skills, he took over ownership of Dixie Souvenirs, traveling all over the Far East and working with a number of international manufacturers to bring high quality souvenirs to the southeastern United States; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his success with Dixie Souvenirs, he supported other local businesses as an investor; and

WHEREAS, in his spare time, he loved to read and was a lifelong student of both history and the Bible; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skillern was an active and devout member of the First Presbyterian Church of Soddy Daisy, which he served faithfully for many years as a member of its session; and

WHEREAS, Rees Skillern was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skillern was preceded in death by his grandparents, William R. and Elizabeth Skillern and Will and Ruth Stroud, and his uncle, Mike Stroud; and

WHEREAS, his memory will be cherished by his parents, County Commissioner Fred Rees Skillern and Bettye Stroud Skillern; his aunt, Bobbie Ellen, and her husband, Miles; and several cousins; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Skillern leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Rees Skillern, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Skillern.

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