

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 892

By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to recognize Melvin C. Everette on the occasion of his retirement.

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, Melvin C. Everette is one such estimable person who served with distinction for thirty-two years in service to the State of Tennessee as a health care management and policy expert; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Wilson County, Mr. Everette graduated from Castle Heights Military Academy in Lebanon before attending Middle Tennessee State University, from which he earned a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in both economics and sociology, and a Master of Arts degree in psychology; and

WHEREAS, after embarking upon his career as a public servant in 1973, Mr. Everette rendered sterling service within the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Department of Health's Bureau of Medicaid, and the TennCare Bureau as it operated out of the Department of Finance and Administration; and

WHEREAS, in June of 2001, Mr. Everette became executive director of the General Assembly's Select Oversight Committee on TennCare and, for ten years, he ably advised members and leaders on policy and budgetary matters concerning development, evolution, and management of the State's multi-million dollar Medicaid-waiver program, TennCare; and

WHEREAS, probably most appreciated for his prompt, thorough, and compassionate responsiveness to constituents from every corner of and community in Tennessee, Melvin Everette has dedicated his time to helping others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Everette smoothed the way for many in dire straits to receive health care coverage and medical services. While the sick sat at home, in medical offices, in

emergencies rooms, and in hospital rooms dealing with the physical challenges of illness, Mr. Everette worked tirelessly to get answers to questions and untangle bureaucratic qualms, advocating sternly for medical assistance for the needy and deserving; and

WHEREAS, though serious and focused on all matters related to health care coverage and patient care, Mr. Everette certainly blended humor and enjoyment with his work environment. He is a consummate storyteller and an exceptionally fun person to be around; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Everette is now enjoying a much deserved retirement, during which he continues to dabble in real estate ventures in Wilson and Rutherford Counties; and

WHEREAS, throughout his long and prosperous professional years, Mr. Everette has been supported by the love and care of his wife of many years, Patricia, and his daughter, Mary Katherine, of whom he is exceedingly proud; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Everette exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Melvin C. Everette has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of colleagues; 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 extend to Melvin C. Everette 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.