

HOUSE RESOLUTION 24

By Bass

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Brian Flowers upon being named Tennessee Young Farmer of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as agricultural leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding person is Brian Flowers of Campbellsville, who was recently honored as the 2010 Young Farmer of the Year in Tennessee by the Tennessee Farm Bureau; and

WHEREAS, born on July 7, 1976, Brian Flowers has been farming for fourteen years, with a total of 1,070 acres in operation; and

WHEREAS, he has been a fulltime farmer since 1996, operating the Flowers Dairy in Campbellsville; his major crops include corn, soybeans, wheat hay, and grass hay, and he owns 100 Holstein Dairy cows with 90 replacement Holstein Dairy heifers and 56 black cross beef cattle; and

WHEREAS, as a youth, Mr. Flowers worked on his father's dairy, as well as other local dairies, while purchasing a few heifer calves along the way; in 1996, and with fifteen cows and fifteen heifers, he decided to start his own dairy operation; and

WHEREAS, after receiving a loan for young farmers, allowing him to purchase land and to build a dairy barn, he purchased forty more cows, a tractor, and a mixer wagon; he started milking using a scoop and pitchfork for loading his feed mixer, and within a couple of years, he was able to purchase a loader, more cows, and crop equipment; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Flowers doubled his milking parlor, added a feed barn, and a commodity shed for storing different types of feed, then started raising his own corn and all of his own forage; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, he purchased eighteen beef cows to diversify his operation, and today, he has a dairy herd of one hundred Holstein cows, with more than ninety replacement heifers, fifty Holstein steers, and fifty-six beef cows with calves; and

WHEREAS, Brian Flowers has served with distinction on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors since 2000, and has also estimably served as Chair of Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee from 2000 to 2002, and currently serves on the Dairy Commodity Committee, Livestock Commodity Committee, and on the Ag in the Classroom C; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Flowers won the State Environment Stewardship Award in 2006 and was runner-up in the Young Farmer of the Year Award in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Brian Flowers is an active and devout member of Bethel Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, evincing a strong commitment to public service, Mr. Flowers has been a volunteer fire and rescue member since 1994, serving Campbellsville Fire and Rescue as Lieutenant for four years and as Captain for three years; and

WHEREAS, Brian Flowers exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a true Tennessean and this body finds it appropriate to honor and commend such an outstanding and remarkable individual; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Brian Flowers of Campbellsville upon his selection as the 2010 Young Farmer of the Year in Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in all 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.