

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 352

By Marrero

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Andre K. Fowlkes on his appointment as a director of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those Tennesseans who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves in public service to their state and nation; and

WHEREAS, it is with utmost pride and honor that we recognize and congratulate Andre K. Fowlkes, an outstanding Tennessean who was recently appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to serve as a director of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority; and

WHEREAS, for Andre Fowlkes, the importance of public service was instilled in him at an early age by his parents, Judge and Mrs. John T. Fowlkes; and

WHEREAS, after graduating with a business degree from Iona College's Hagan School of Business, Mr. Fowlkes began his career in finance on the cotton floor of the commodities exchange in the World Trade Center and learned sales through a detached agency of Guardian Life in the areas of brokerage, subscription, annuity, and institutional business in Westchester, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fowlkes is currently the owner of Innpowerment, a business focused on empowering people to use innovation and take advantage of the resources and opportunities available to them; from businesses and organizations to students and business professionals, Innpowerment seeks to educate, connect, and consult for those in need; and

WHEREAS, Andre Fowlkes is also a weekly business columnist for *The Commercial Appeal*, assists LaunchMemphis as Director of Civic Entrepreneurship, and serves on the Advisory Board for the Memphis Area Teacher's Credit Union as well as Economic Opportunities (a rehabilitation program for ex-felons); and

WHEREAS, in addition, Andre Fowlkes has served as the Vice Chairman of the Memphis and Shelby County Metropolitan Charter Commission and is the chairman of a grassroots effort to build the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center of Memphis; he is the co-creator of "Community Is Opportunity," an incubator for non-profits, and he served as Executive Director and Chairman of the Small Business Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fowlkes volunteers his time and resources to organizations such as MPACT Memphis, National Bipolar Foundation, IDEAS, and LaunchMemphis; he has provided mentoring workshops for students of the Bayview Academy, which is a charter school in San Francisco, and has conducted fundraising efforts for the William J. Clinton Foundation's Millennium Network and Save the Children's Hurricane Katrina efforts; and

WHEREAS, Andre Fowlkes is uniquely qualified for his new post as a director of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, and he is to be especially commended for his many years of honorable and astute service to the citizens of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Andre K. Fowlkes on his appointment as a director of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority by Governor Bill Haslam, and we extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

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