

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 603

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Steven C. Smith on receiving the Sidney R. Rabb Award from the Food Marketing Institute.

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

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Steven Smith, recipient of the Sidney R. Rabb Award, which was conferred upon him by the Food Marketing Institute (FMI) for his exceptional service to the consumer, the community, and the supermarket industry; and

WHEREAS, the esteemed President and Chief Executive Officer of K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., Mr. Smith was raised in the grocery industry, acquiring his business acumen from his father, Jack Smith, who opened his first Piggly Wiggly store in 1955; and

WHEREAS, before taking the helm of K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., Steven Smith had already amassed an impressive resume, holding such prestigious titles as District Manager, Director of Meat Operations, Director of Advertising, Store Operations Divisional Vice-President, Executive Vice-President of Store Operations, and Chief Operating Officer; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary thirty-two year tenure, the company has continued to flourish with ninety-three Food City Supermarkets now located throughout the tri-state regions of Southeast Kentucky, Southwest Virginia, and Northeast Tennessee, in addition to eleven Super Dollar Discount Food Stores; and

WHEREAS, a highly influential figure in his field, Mr. Smith is the only executive to serve as Chairman on both FMI's and the National Grocers Association's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Steven Smith was named the 2009 Grocer of the Year by Tennessee Grocers and Convenience Store Association and received the

Rotary Club's Paul Harris Award, and Food City was the recipient of the 2008 Community Service Award, a prestigious honor given to companies that embody the true spirit of community service; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to his profession is matched only by his involvement in his community; Mr. Smith and Food City graciously support a host of worthy organizations and non-profits, including Muscular Dystrophy, Boy Scouts of America, United Way, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, American Cancer Society, East Tennessee Children's Hospital, Santa Pals, YWCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, and American Diabetes Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith's remarkable success as a businessman and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Steven Smith is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and it is wholly fitting that he be specially recognized; 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 Steven C. Smith on receiving the Sidney R. Rabb Award, salute his professional expertise and his personal excellence, and wish him all the best 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.