

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 766

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the memory of Paul Agee upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding citizens dedicated to promoting the importance of farming in our society; and

WHEREAS, agriculture has been a cornerstone of Wilson County since the county's founding in 1799, and those citizens involved in agriculture have always been a vital part of the community; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual was the late Paul Agee, who was recently posthumously inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame for his life's work as an agricultural advocate; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Agee was born on a farm five miles west of Lebanon on August 4, 1909, the third of ten children born to A. J. Agee and Caldonia Williams Agee; and

WHEREAS, his father raised Duroc hogs and gave one to Paul at an early age and, by age sixteen, he was showing hogs at local fairs and winning ribbons for his Duroc's pure bloodlines; and

WHEREAS, by the age of twenty-one, Mr. Agee was farming with his father and breeding his hogs and, by twenty-seven, he went on the fair circuit again, showing in twelve cities and winning championships in all but Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Paul purchased a farm on Old Lebanon Road in late 1939; he married Mamie Grigsby in 1941 and they moved to the farm where he continued to raise hogs, farm, and raise pure bred bird dogs; and

WHEREAS, he built a new and improved sale barn in 1948, hosting champion hog sales every year for eleven years, with people from every state coming for the sales; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Agee won many trophies for his champion Duroc hogs, including the Tennessee Premiere Duroc Sire, the Alabama Jr. & Sr. Grand Champion Boar, the Champion Boar at the Tennessee State Fair, and he had the National Premiere Sire twice; and

WHEREAS, Paul Agee served with acumen and alacrity as the Director of the United Duroc Swine Registry, he received many awards from the National Duroc Congress, and he served as Secretary for the Tennessee Valley Duroc Breeders Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Agee was also in the Hereford cattle business and was active in the Wilson County Hereford Breeders, serving as Vice President in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Paul was an original incorporator of the Wilson County Farmers Co-Op and served on the Board of the Wilson County Farm Bureau in 1960 and 1961; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Agee were active and devout members of First Baptist Church and were founding members of Trinity Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame honors those dedicated citizens who have committed their lives to developing and maintaining the highest agricultural standards and principles, and it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor the late Paul Agee for his lifetime of farming achievements; 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 the memory of Paul Agee upon his induction into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame and recognize his laudable contributions to upholding the agricultural traditions of Wilson County and the State of Tennessee.

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