

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 864

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Blake Gallimore of Dresden upon his winning the Tennessee State Parks Running Tour 2011-12 Grand Prix Series Championship title.

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

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Blake Gallimore, who recently won the distinguished Tennessee State Parks Running Tour Overall Men's Grand Prix Championship of the 2011-12 Running Tour Grand Prix Series; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gallimore demonstrated unwavering endurance and consistent excellence throughout the thirty-third season of the Tennessee State Parks Running Tour, which is the oldest state parks running series in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in a season that saw more than one thousand runners participate in the Grand Prix competition, which requires running in at least five of the season's twenty-one races, Mr. Gallimore compiled two hundred eighty-two points on the season and bested his closest competitor by ten points in one of the Tour's most competitive Grand Prix standings ever; and

WHEREAS, having made good point accumulations in each of the ten races in which he participated, Mr. Gallimore was the overall race winner of the Two Lakes 7 Mile Trail at Montgomery Bell State Park, the Pilot Knob 10K at N. B. Forrest State Park, and the Race to the Landing 6 Miler at Pickwick Landing State Park; and

WHEREAS, with an outstanding second-place finish on March 3, 2011, at the Fall Creek Thaw 15K, Mr. Gallimore wrapped up the Tour's Grand Prix title. During that race, he set a 6:25 pace and completed the distance in 59:40, just ahead of his formidable opponent, Israel Cervantes, who had been in dogged pursuit of the title throughout the season; and

WHEREAS, with more than 3,500 persons competing throughout the 2011-12 season, a fifteen percent increase in participation, many individual races set highest-ever levels of participation; and

WHEREAS, with a competitive spirit that heightens his desire to excel in his chosen endeavors, Blake Gallimore immensely enjoys the beauty and tranquility of Tennessee's finest parks when he is running; and

WHEREAS, the self-discipline and personal determination he evinces are truly traits of a proud Tennessean who can be heralded as a role model for young and old alike; and

WHEREAS, in attaining this outstanding accomplishment, Mr. Gallimore has shown the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that this body finally recognize Blake Gallimore for this impressive accomplishment; 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 commend Blake Gallimore upon becoming the 2011-12 Tennessee State Parks Running Tour Overall Men's Grand Prix Champion, and we extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

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