

SENATE RESOLUTION 62

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor Tennessee native and Green Bay Packers left offensive tackle Chad Clifton on the occasion of the Packers' Super Bowl XLV victory.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to honor an upstanding ambassador of this State for his accomplishments on the football field; and

WHEREAS, Chad Clifton, who plays left offensive tackle for the Green Bay Packers, made his Super Bowl debut in Super Bowl XLV, in which the Packers were victorious over the Pittsburgh Steelers by the score of 31-25; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clifton, a native of Martin, is the son of Harold and Dotsie Clifton and is a 1995 graduate of Martin Westview High School. Mr. Clifton helped lead the Chargers to berths in the state playoffs his junior and senior seasons; and

WHEREAS, the Class 2-A "Mr. Football" was selected as a High School All-American by *Parade Magazine* and *Scholastic Coach*; and

WHEREAS, Chad Clifton was heavily recruited out of high school and chose to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville (UTK); and

WHEREAS, he was a stalwart offensive lineman during his estimable career at UTK. He was called in to replace an injured player three games into what was supposed to be his redshirt year and continued to excel on the football field from that point forward; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clifton played as a starter during his four years at the university, helping the Vols win the 1998 national championship and serving as the captain of the 1999 team during his senior season; and

WHEREAS, he matriculated to further successes in the National Football League (NFL) in 2000, when he was drafted in the second round by the Green Bay Packers, the team with which Mr. Clifton has enjoyed eleven laudable seasons; and

WHEREAS, Chad Clifton has numerous accomplishments to his name as a left offensive tackle for the Packers. In his eleven seasons with the team, he has started 154 of the 159 games in which he has played and, this past season, he became one of only eighteen players in the franchise's history to pass the 150<sup>th</sup> regular-season game mark; and

WHEREAS, from 2008 through 2010, Mr. Clifton helped the Packers become the first team in NFL history to have a 4,000-yard passer, a 1,200-yard rusher, and two 1,000-yard receivers in consecutive seasons. He has blocked for five of the top eight single-season rushers in the franchise's history, and has been selected as an alternate player for four different Pro Bowl games, playing in the 2007 Pro Bowl in place of the Seattle Seahawks' Walter Jones; and

WHEREAS, Chad Clifton's tireless and valiant efforts on the offensive line greatly contributed to the Packers' victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers at Super Bowl XLV, and it is fitting that we join with the people of Martin in saluting this outstanding player who has excelled time and again on the football gridiron; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Chad Clifton on his role in helping the Green Bay Packers become the Super Bowl XLV champions, and that we extend to him our best wishes for every 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.