

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 903

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION recognizing Dr. Coby V. Smith for his civic involvement and community service.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those Tennesseans who, throughout their many years of service, stand as paragons of civic involvement; and

WHEREAS, Coby V. Smith, Ed.D., is one such intrepid individual who rendered sterling service as a citizen of Memphis and of Tennessee for many years, dedicating his time and energies as a valuable contributor to the improvement of the lives of those around him; and

WHEREAS, since founding the company in 1992, Dr. Smith has led Dr. Coby V. Smith and Associates, a consulting firm which offers business planning and proposal development, and operational and training consultation; and

WHEREAS, in this capacity, Dr. Smith lends his expertise and experience in the areas of program development, coordination, counseling, management, education, administration, and consultation in both the private and public sectors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Rhodes College before attending the University of Massachusetts, from which he earned a doctorate in education; and

WHEREAS, for over two decades, Dr. Smith participated as a leader within the Memphis community, offering his consulting expertise to a number of organizations, including TennCare and Memphis FAMILYCARE Center, Inc., Rural Housing and Economic Development, Inc., Memphis Area Legal Services, and LeMoyne-Owen College, among others; and

WHEREAS, he also lends his valued leadership abilities in service as the Director of the Youth Learning Study Center, Inc., Vice President of the Board of Directors of Shelby County Head Start, the Director of the Shelby County Commodities distribution program, Executive

Director of the Harold Hayden Scholarship Fund, President of the Educational Resource Development Laboratory, Inc., Assistant National Director of Push for Excellence, Division Head of Planning and Development for the State Technical Institute, and community organizer for Memphis Area Project South; and

WHEREAS, a firm believer in the importance of education, Dr. Smith stood as an instructor in the Christian Brothers University business program, as a professor for the State University of New York College at Old Westbury's Urban Studies College and Third World Institute, and as a dean and prime educational consultant for the Navy Race Relation Education School in Washington, and he has given a number of lectures and keynote speeches across the country; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith is a member of a number of professional organizations, including the American Society for Training and Development, the American Technical Association, the American Vocational Association, the National Society for the Advancement of Black Americans in Vocational Education Tennessee Vocational Association, the West Tennessee Education Association, the African Heritage Studies Association, and the North Memphis Round Table; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Smith has dedicated his life in service to others and to his community, and it is wholly fitting that he be recognized by this body for his many contributions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commend Dr. Coby V. Smith for his tireless and unwavering support and work in the Memphis community, applaud his many contributions to improving the lives of others, and extend our best wishes for his every future success and happiness.

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