

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 224

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Bobby Haley 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 is Bobby Haley, who will be inducted into the Wilson County Agricultural Hall of Fame on April 2, 2013, for his life's work as an agricultural advocate; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Haley was born on December 6, 1941, to Johnny Garvin Haley and Ruby Neal Haley; he is one of six siblings raised on a farm in the Watertown/Alexandria area in Wilson County; and

WHEREAS, during his youth, Bobby Haley's father was a Baptist minister and farmer, and Bobby helped the family by milking and working on the farm; his father is ninety-three and now resides in Warren County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Haley graduated from Watertown High School, where he was a member of the Future Farmers of America and the football team; and

WHEREAS, he continued his education at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he was a member of the Block and Bridle Club; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Haley put his education on hold to serve a tour of duty in the United States Navy and, upon the conclusion of his military service, he returned to college at Middle

Tennessee State University, where he was a charter member of the Block and Bridle Club, and from which he graduated in 1968 with a degree in agribusiness; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Haley served with acumen and alacrity as a Sales Representative and Poultry Technician for Central Soya in Decatur, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, he returned to the farm in Watertown and began raising tobacco and beef cattle; that same year, he opened the Watertown Farm Supply, which he managed until 1976 and owned until 1993; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Bobby married Loretta Haley and they moved to a farm that had been in Loretta's family, which is now registered as a Century Farm and known as Haley Farm, and they remain active in beef cattle and cropping; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, Mr. Haley began a trucking business to assist farmers with their hauling needs; and

WHEREAS, active in his community, Bobby Haley has served Wilson County in many capacities: he served as District Commissioner from 1982-2002, during which time he was Chairman of the Finance Committee, Education Committee, and Ag Center Committee; and as a Board Member of Wilson Farmers Co-op, Wilson County Farm Bureau, and Wilson County Livestock Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Haley has served as Chairman and Secretary of the Wilson County Election Committee since 2003, he has been a Wilson County Fair Board member since 1982, and he has served as Chairman of the Century Farm Luncheon since 1993; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Haley was named the 1995 Soil Conservation Farmer of the Year; he is a Master Beef Producer and Gardener; he is a retired member of the Watertown Lion's Club, which he served as President; and he was a charter member of the Sue Talley Scholarship Fund; and

WHEREAS, he has served as Commander and Adjutant of American Legion Post 76; Adjutant and Vice-Commander, and Boys State and Girls State Chairman of American Legion Post 15; and Commander of VFW Post 5015; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Haley are active and devout members of the Lebanon Cumberland Presbyterian Church, where Mr. Haley teaches Sunday School; and

WHEREAS, his innumerable accomplishments aside, Bobby Haley is also deeply devoted to his family and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is perhaps most proud of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Loretta; their children, Wayne Yelverton and Jason and Justin Haley; and their grandchildren, Emily, Ashley, Kelsey, and Courtney; 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 Bobby Haley for his lifetime of farming achievements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the memory of Bobby Haley 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.