

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 521

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Alcoa Police Chief  
Kenneth Edward Burge.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Chief Kenneth Edward Burge, a dedicated and exemplary public servant; and

WHEREAS, Chief Burge was committed to the protection of the people of Alcoa, spending his life serving as a law enforcement officer; and

WHEREAS, Chief Burge was born on September 29, 1950, in East Saint Louis, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Belleville High School Township East in May of 1968, he attended McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois, from which he graduated with a B.A. in criminal justice to start his forty-year career in police work; and

WHEREAS, his career began as a police officer in Fairview Heights, Illinois; Chief Burge first became a police chief in 1985, serving in Indianola, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, other personal achievements in his illustrious career include attending the FBI National Academy in 1995 and becoming an active member of CALEA, a national law enforcement accrediting agency; he later led the Alcoa Police Department to receive premiere accreditation from CALEA; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being Alcoa's Police Chief, he was also a member of the board of directors for Blount County 911 and for the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Drug Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Chief Burge was also a lifetime member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, a testament to his dedication to a career in law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Chief Burge performed his appointed duties in an admirable manner that distinguished him as a credit to both his community and his profession. Alcoa was made a better and safer place to live through his service; and

WHEREAS, he was known both locally and nationally for his leadership, professional commitment, and personal qualifications; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Burge enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Bettiann, for 45 years and was the proud father of Kenneth Kirsten and Ginger Leigh and the proud grandfather of Kenneth Colton Redden Burge; and

WHEREAS, Chief Burge leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Alcoa, and indeed the entire State, have felt the deep pain produced by this loss of one of our best and brightest law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional law enforcement officer and human being; 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 honor the memory of Alcoa Police Chief Kenneth Edward Burge, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and limitless courage as someone upon whom so many looked as a shining example of bravery, benevolence, and dependability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Chief Burge.

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