

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1143

By Moon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Deputy Fire Chief David Hodges upon the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, communities throughout Tennessee are served and protected by the many individuals who dedicate their time and energies toward service in their local volunteer fire departments; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Deputy Fire Chief David Hodges, who, after more than three decades of service with the City of Maryville Fire Department, recently took his much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Hodges worked in fire service for a total of thirty-nine years; after serving for seven years with the City of Alcoa as a volunteer firefighter, he went on to serve with the City of Maryville Fire Department as a firefighter (1986-1989), firefighter engineer (1989-1997), 2nd lieutenant (1997-2000), and Fire Operations Commander (2000-2004), a position that was reclassified as Deputy Fire Chief in 2004 and in which capacity he continued to serve until his retirement on March 29, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a man of great ability and versatility, he earned Tennessee Firefighting Commission certifications of Firefighter III, Fire Instructor I, and Fire Officer I and II; was a certified fire inspector and building rehabilitation inspector with the State of Tennessee; received Chief Fire Officer Designation from the Center for Public Safety Excellence and served that organization as a peer reviewer; and was a certified emergency medical technician and hazardous materials technician; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Chief David Hodges graduated from the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy and was a member of the Institution of Fire Engineers and Leadership Blount class of 2007; and

WHEREAS, admired for his acumen and experience, Deputy Chief Hodges served as a board member of both the 911 Center and Blount County's Homeland Security Board; he also served as a fire service representative and an incident management team member for the East Tennessee Homeland Security District; and

WHEREAS, Chief Deputy Hodges was a trusted leader in his profession; he served as chairman of the Blount County Fire Chiefs Association, chairman of the East Tennessee Council of Fire Chiefs, and president of the Tennessee Fire Chiefs' Association; and

WHEREAS, a 2002 graduate of Walters State Community College, where he earned an associate degree in fire protection, Deputy Chief David Hodges earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Tusculum College; and

WHEREAS, under Deputy Chief Hodges's esteemed leadership, the City of Maryville Fire Department has greatly improved the level of service it provides to its community over the years; and

WHEREAS, always dedicated to his mission, Deputy Chief David Hodges won the respect and trust of every volunteer under his supervision as well as that of other area fire departments; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Hodges committed himself each and every day to serving and protecting his community, and it is wholly fitting that he be recognized for his sterling contributions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Deputy Fire Chief David Hodges of the City of Maryville Fire Department for thirty-two years of untiring service to the good people of Maryville.

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