

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 13

By Cepicky

A RESOLUTION to honor Mayor Jim Bailey for his service to the citizens of Maury County.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly recognize those estimable Tennesseans who have devoted their lives to public service; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is James L. "Jim" Bailey, Jr., who has served admirably as the mayor of Mt. Pleasant for the last two years, capping off an illustrious career of public service to the citizens of Mt. Pleasant and Maury County that spans half a century; and

WHEREAS, a native of Maury County, Mr. Bailey is the son of James L. Bailey, Sr., and Sara F. Bailey; he attended Maury County public schools through the tenth grade and graduated from Columbia Military Academy; and

WHEREAS, he went on to attend Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee before receiving his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis; a lifelong learner, he later took banking courses at Columbia State Community College, earned his Certified Public Administrator Certificate, and attended the University of Tennessee Institute of Public Service; and

WHEREAS, Jim Bailey owned and operated Bailey Drug in Mt. Pleasant until 1995; during his years as a pharmacist, he cultivated meaningful friendships with his neighbors throughout the community, which proved auspicious as he began his career in public service; and

WHEREAS, after serving on the Mount Pleasant Planning Commission from 1968 to 1969, Mr. Bailey, at the age of twenty-nine, was elected to the Mt. Pleasant Board of Commissioners; during his first time in office, he was named vice mayor and then mayor; and

WHEREAS, James Bailey was elected to represent Mt. Pleasant on the Maury County Commission in 1976, where he served as commission chairman for eight of his twelve years in office; in 2002, he was elected mayor of Maury County, in which capacity he served until 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bailey was again elected to the Mt. Pleasant Board of Commissioners and appointed to the position of vice mayor in July 2016; in November of that year, the board appointed him mayor; and

WHEREAS, during his second two-year term as mayor from 2016 to 2018, Mayor Jim Bailey led Mt. Pleasant as the city refinanced its debt and took steps toward repairing and expanding its aging sewer plant, which in turn made possible new residential and commercial building projects; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Bailey helped secure more than \$5 million in funds that, in addition to aiding with the sewer plant revitalization efforts, went toward downtown reconstruction, a public dog park, and spin classes at the city's community center; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader among his peers, Jim Bailey has also served as director of Maury County Emergency Management; director of First Farmers and Merchants Bank; chairman of the Tennessee Southern Railroad Authority; a board member, secretary, and treasurer of South Central Tennessee Development District; a board member of South Central Human Resource Agency; a board member and vice chairman of South Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance; and regional vice president of the Association of County Mayors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bailey was appointed by the governor to serve on the Duck River Agency Board, and he was appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Financial Institutions to serve on the Collateral Pool Board; and

WHEREAS, his civic contributions also include service as president of the Mt. Pleasant Lions Club and the Maury County American Cancer Society, a board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Boys & Girls Club, and chairman of the March of Dimes and Heart Fund Drives; additionally, he is a 32nd Degree Mason and Shriner; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Jim Bailey received the Outstanding Man of Maury County Award in 1974; and

WHEREAS, a man of devout faith, Mr. Bailey is a longtime member of Main Street Church of Christ in Mt. Pleasant; and

WHEREAS, though he is leaving his role as mayor, Mr. Bailey plans to continue serving Mt. Pleasant as an unpaid liaison; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jim Bailey has been a faithful, compassionate, and capable public servant for many years, and he is wholly deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Mt. Pleasant Mayor James L. "Jim" Bailey, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement, commend him for thirty-three years of exceptional service to the citizens of Mt. Pleasant and Maury County, and extend our best wishes for much success and happiness in 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.