

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 174

By Griffey

A RESOLUTION to honor Lieutenant Colonel Larry I. Smith,  
Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee Regiment of  
the Tennessee State Guard.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable Tennessean is Lieutenant Colonel Larry I. Smith, who recently took part in the Change of Command ceremony for the 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard, becoming the Commander of that esteemed regiment; and

WHEREAS, the central rite of a Change of Command is a military tradition that represents a formal transfer of authority and responsibility for a unit from one Commander to another; the passing of guidon from an outgoing Commander to an incoming one ensures that the unit is never without official leadership or a continuation of trust; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Larry Smith enlisted in the United States Air Force on March 13, 1966, after four months in the Delayed Enlistment Program; his service in the Air Force included a ninety-day tour of duty to Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, in support of Vietnam Counteroffensive Phase II, a year in Thailand at NKP Royal Thai Air Base, and a year at Tan Shon Nhut Airforce Base, Republic of South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, upon discharge from the Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel Smith returned to college, graduating from Tennessee Technological University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, and thereafter founded his own company, which proved successful; and

WHEREAS, devoted to serving his fellow citizens, Lieutenant Colonel Larry Smith has served as Mayor of Rutherford, City Commissioner of Paris, and President of the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors; he is a member of American Legion Post 164, a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the National Rifle Association, and a member of First Baptist Church in Paris, where he has faithfully served for many years; and

WHEREAS, in July 2003, Lieutenant Colonel Larry Smith enlisted in the Tennessee State Guard, and since that time, he has served as Company Commander, Recruiting Officer, Battalion S1, Regimental Provost, Executive Officer and Commander for the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, and Executive Officer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and honors, Lieutenant Colonel Smith is highly decorated at the State and federal levels; his federal awards include the Presidential Unit Citation with 1 Oak Leaf, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with V, National Defense Service Ribbon, Small Arms Expert Marksman Ribbon, Vietnam Service Ribbon with 1 Silver and 2 Bronze Stars, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and Vietnam Campaign Medal; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Larry Smith's Tennessee State Guard awards include the Meritorious Service Ribbon, Tennessee State Guard Commanding General's Letter of Commendation Ribbon, Commendation Ribbon with Bronze Oak Leaf, Officer Achievement, Tennessee Defense Service, Aid to Civil Authority, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Task Force volunteer, Community Volunteer Service with 2 Silver Oak Leaves, Volunteer Service Ribbon, Recruiters Achievement Ribbon, Military Readiness Ribbon, and Military Funeral Honor Guard TAB; and

WHEREAS, his State Guard Association of the United States honors include earning Senior Military Emergency Management Specialist and Engineering Specialist Qualification designations; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many accomplishments, Lieutenant Colonel Smith has enjoyed the love and support of his family: his wife, Lucile Dodd Smith; four children, Sherron

Ostander, Jennifer Ussery, Patrick Smith, and Nathaniel Smith; twelve grandchildren; two great-granddaughters; one sister, Lanette Smith; and mother, LaVerne Jones Smith; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we honor Lieutenant Colonel Larry Smith as one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens; 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 Lieutenant Colonel Larry I. Smith on his new post as Commander of the 1st Tennessee Regiment of the Tennessee State Guard, extending our gratitude for his dedicated service to his country and this State and our best wishes for his continued success in all 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.