

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 260

By Holt

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jimmy Tosh upon his selection as the 2019 Top Producer of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jimmy Tosh, who was recently selected as the 2019 Top Producer at the *Farm Journal's* Top Producer Summit in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Henry County, Mr. Tosh developed an interest in agriculture at a young age, following in his father's footsteps; he is a graduate of Henry High School and the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Tosh returned home upon his college graduation and took over the family business, expanding the farm from 316 acres of family land and 1,000 feeder pigs to what is now the twenty-fourth-largest swine operation in the United States; Tosh Farms includes 17,000 acres of white and yellow corn, soybeans, canola, and wheat, as well as 37,000 sows that produce 850,000 market hogs annually; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tosh is the owner and chief executive officer of Tosh Farms, Tosh Pork, LLC, and Bacon By Gosh, Inc.; today, Tosh Farms has nearly 400 full-time employees who abide by the business's mission statement to measure success by profitability, quality of production, environmental awareness, and attention to human resources; and

WHEREAS, known in the agricultural community as a trailblazer, he believes that early adopters of technology reap the most benefits; he was one of the first users of the personal computer to manage his farm's finances, and he has supplemented his feed rations with

nontraditional ingredients and manufactured a system to process these ingredients into feed pellets; and

WHEREAS, firmly committed to his community, Jimmy Tosh was the first to offer swine contracts, which allow young farmers to stay in the area and produce hogs while building equity in their own operations; he has offered a number of scholarships to area youth and farm employees, and he sponsors an ongoing scholarship for students at Murray State University; and

WHEREAS, he is actively involved in the local fair, the Tennessee Pork Producers Association, the Soybean Association, the Corn Growers Association, the Farm Service Agency, the National Resources Conservation Service, and Relay for Life, and he frequently serves as a consultant for key agricultural policymakers in the State; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and awards, Mr. Tosh was named the Star Farmer of West Tennessee by the FFA, and he was selected as Regional Farmer of the Year and Southeast Farmer of the Year in 1998; Tosh Farms was also awarded Best Managed Farm in America in 1997; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Jimmy Tosh is grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife of thirty-six years, Alonna, and their sons, Jamey and Jonathan, who are involved in the family business; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tosh epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jimmy Tosh for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its 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 and commend Jimmy Tosh upon his selection as the 2019 Top Producer of the Year and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

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