

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 647

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to recognize Steve North on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of service; and

WHEREAS, Steve North of Madison is one such estimable individual, who served with distinction for fifty-two years as an attorney of the greatest dedication and ability; he recently took his much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. North was born on October 24, 1941, in Abilene, Texas, the son of Ira L. North and Avon Stephens North; and

WHEREAS, a 1959 graduate of Madison High School, Steve North obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from David Lipscomb College in 1963 and his Juris Doctorate from Vanderbilt University in 1965, the same year he became licensed to practice law; and

WHEREAS, he began his legal career as a partner at Howell & Fisher in January 1966, handling primarily insurance defense and eminent domain cases; he departed the firm in 1974, when he was elected as Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court of Davidson County, where he remained until 1982, when he resigned from that office to run for District Attorney; and

WHEREAS, from 1982 until his retirement in 2018, Steve North practiced law at North Law Office with his son Mark North; during his thirty-six-year tenure at North Law Office, he served as a trial lawyer, representing primarily plaintiffs in personal injury, medical malpractice, employment discrimination, products liability, and business litigation cases; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his illustrious career as a legal professional, he taught at Vanderbilt University Law School as an adjunct professor for twelve years; he also enjoyed

teaching appointments with the National Institute of Trial Advocacy at the University of Colorado, Hofstra University, Emory University, and the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, prior to his career as an attorney, he served as a preacher at Spring Hill Church of Christ from 1962 to 1965; and

WHEREAS, he was also a member of the Sports Authority of Nashville, Davidson County, from 2002 to 2014; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many accomplishments, Mr. North has enjoyed the love and support of his wife of fifty-six years, Jo Ann McLendon North, and their sons, Stephen, Jr., Mark, and David; grandchildren, Anthony, Karly, Lara, JoCee, Lily, and Myra; and great-grandsons, Carter and Ian; and

WHEREAS, Steve North exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. North demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of his colleagues and clients; 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 extend to Steve North our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success 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.