

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 927

By Hurt

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Trooper Matthew "Matt" Elias Gatti of Madison County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly wish to honor the memory of Trooper Matthew "Matt" Elias Gatti, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty on May 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Matt Gatti was a brave and dedicated law enforcement officer who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Douglasville, Georgia, on September 25, 1994, Trooper Gatti was the son of Christopher and Christy Gatti and a 2012 graduate of HomeLife Academy; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Matt Gatti joined the Madison County Sheriff's Office in 2016 as a Detention Specialist; in June 2018, he joined the Tennessee Highway Patrol and was assigned to Haywood County Scales; and

WHEREAS, in his time with the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Trooper Gatti was a leader in his field of commercial vehicle inspections and consistently led his troop in crucial violations, including hours of service and commercial vehicle violations; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Matt Gatti was always ready to assist any citizen in a time of need and would routinely go above and beyond to ensure that he was serving, securing, and protecting the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Gatti performed his appointed duties in an admirable manner that distinguished him as a credit to both his community and his profession; the State of Tennessee was undoubtedly made a better and safer place as a result of his service; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Gatti was passionate about deer hunting, guns, knives, baseball, and animals, especially dogs; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman of devout religious faith, Trooper Matt Gatti was an active member of Gospel Light Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Gatti enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Anna Caroline Lax Gatti; he is lovingly remembered by his parents, Christopher and Christy Gatti; his sisters, Hannah Gatti and Esther Gatti; his brother, Joshua Gatti; his grandparents, Joseph and Brenda Gatti and Barbara Cunningham; his parents-in-law, Frankie and Kimberly Lax; his grandparents-in-law, Jerry and Ann Duvall White; and a host of extended family, colleagues, and dear friends; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his grandfather, Tom "Pop" Cunningham; his grandmother, Cynthia Bell; and his grandparents-in-law, Franklin and Annie Ruth Lax, Everett Cartwright, and Dr. Robert A. Harrell, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Matt Gatti leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and valor in his public life as a law enforcement officer, compassion and loyalty in his private life, and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to honor the memory of this exceptional police officer and human being; 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 on behalf of a grateful public, we honor the memory and celebrate the life of Trooper Matthew "Matt" Elias Gatti of the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Trooper Gatti.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.