

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 967

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Christopher Clark, Third Annual Living Legend Awards honoree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable individuals who serve as exemplary ambassadors for this State through their music; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Christopher Clark, who is being honored at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the joy he has brought to the people of Memphis and Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, the Third Annual Living Legend Awards ceremony, which honors Harriet Tubman and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis on March 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Clark, a sixteen-year-old student at Stax Music Academy (SMA) in Memphis, recently had the great pleasure of performing on national television with his classmates on *Ellen's Greatest Night of Giveaways*; and

WHEREAS, before the SMA students performed the Stax classic "Soul Man," they were joined onstage by one of their idols, fellow Memphian and global pop star Justin Timberlake, who singled out Christopher Clark for an interview and then assured the aspiring singer that he was a future superstar; and

WHEREAS, Justin Timberlake presented Christopher with three incredible gifts: a full scholarship to attend the Grammy Museum's summer music education program, the opportunity to attend the 62nd Grammy Awards, and \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, awed and humbled by this once-in-a-lifetime experience, Mr. Clark wisely plans to save these funds to finance his college education, during which he plans to pursue a degree in music education; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Christopher's largesse, SMA is also benefiting greatly from its students' performance; Ellen DeGeneres presented the school with \$250,000, which will be used to help meet the school's fundraising goals in commemoration of its twentieth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Clark is an exemplary individual; his commitment to excellence as a singer and musician is representative of the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; 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 congratulate Christopher Clark upon his recognition at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud his unparalleled musical talent and his bright future, and extend our best wishes for 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.