

HOUSE RESOLUTION 109

By Holt

A RESOLUTION to honor Master Chief Petty Officer Ellis Eugene Picheloupe, United States Navy, on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to honor the patriotism and dedicated service of Master Chief Petty Officer Ellis Eugene Picheloupe, United States Navy, who is taking his well-deserved retirement after thirty-one years of military service; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Master Chief Picheloupe graduated from Greene County Tech High School in Paragould, Arkansas, in 1985; on February 1, 1989, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and he graduated from Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, the following month; and

WHEREAS, after attending JOBS strand electronics school at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Millington, Tennessee, he reported to Naval Training Center, Orlando, Florida, for Electronics Technician "A" school; in September 1989, he transferred to the USS *Doyle* (FFG-39), on which he served until February 1993 and advanced to Boatswain's Mate Second Class Petty Officer; and

WHEREAS, he then served at Naval Consolidated Brig, Charleston, South Carolina, from March 1993 to January 1996, transferring to Pre-com USS *Oak Hill* (LSD-51) in February 1996; while serving as Deck Department Career Counselor, he was approved for conversion to the Navy Career Counselor (NCC) rating and attended NCC "A" School at Naval Training Center, Norfolk, Virginia, in September 1999 and advanced to Navy Career Counselor First Class Petty Officer in December of that year; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Ellis Picheloupe reported back to the USS *Oak Hill* (LSD-51) as the Command Career Counselor, serving in that capacity until December 2001, at which time

he reported for duty at Training Support Center, Hampton Roads and served until October 2005, having advanced to Chief Petty Officer in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Picheloupe volunteered for individual augmentation and then transferred to Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and served from November 2005 to December 2006; and

WHEREAS, from January 2007 to December 2008, he served on the USS *Enterprise* (CVN-65), thereafter transferring to the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN-69), on which he remained until October 2010, advancing to the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer in May 2009; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Senior Enlisted Academy Class 156 in Newport, Rhode Island, in December 2010, he reported for duty at Commander Naval Region, Europe, Africa, and South West Asia in Naples, Italy, serving there from January 2011 to December 2013; while there, he advanced to Master Chief in May 2013; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Ellis Picheloupe reported to the USS *Bataan* (LHD-5) and served as Senior Career Counselor/Department Senior Manager from January 2014 to January 2017, at which time he transferred to his current station, USS *George Washington* (CVN-73); and

WHEREAS, since January 2017, Master Chief Picheloupe has served as Senior Career Counselor/Department Senior Manager with the USS *George Washington* (CVN-73) in Norfolk, Virginia; in this position, he has managed a department of fifty-four employees, led a team of 125 department and division career counselors as the lead career information program manager for a workforce of more than 3,000 personnel, and provided guidance and training to twenty-five newly advanced personnel in leadership and mentoring; and

WHEREAS, during his three decades of service, Master Chief Picheloupe earned the Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist and Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist pins and completed the United States Military Apprenticeship Journeyman license for Career Counselor and Office Manager; he also earned his associate degree in liberal arts and bachelor's degree in business administration, with emphasis in management technology, from Saint Leo University; and

WHEREAS, Master Chief Picheloupe has received numerous individual awards for his service to the U.S. Navy, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (5), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (6), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (2), Navy "E" Ribbon (4), and Navy Good Conduct Medal (9); and

WHEREAS, he has also received many unit awards for his participation in world events, including the Joint Service Meritorious Unit Commendation, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendation (2), Meritorious Unit Commendation, the National Defense Service Medal (2), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (4); and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments and distinguished military career aside, Master Chief Picheloupe is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Tamera; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-one years, Master Chief Ellis Picheloupe served to protect our individual and collective freedom and the American way of life, and he should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and commend Master Chief Ellis Eugene Picheloupe, United States Navy, on the occasion of his retirement from the military, salute his illustrious service to his country, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness 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.