

HOUSE RESOLUTION 221

By Curcio

A RESOLUTION to honor the president, board, and members of the West Highland Rim Forestry Association on being named the 2019 County Forestry Association of the Year.

WHEREAS, we take great pleasure in recognizing those local organizations that work with purpose to promote viable practices that at once preserve the natural lands of Tennessee and promote industry; and

WHEREAS, the West Highland Rim Forestry Association (WHRFA) has been named the 2019 County Forestry Association of the Year by the Tennessee Forestry Association, an award that recognizes the longstanding commitment to forestry evidenced by this standout organization; and

WHEREAS, the WHRFA was formed in 2017 from the merger of the Dickson and Humphreys/Houston counties forestry associations, which were established in 2003 and 1999, respectively; the organization currently has 117 household memberships from nine Middle Tennessee counties and four other states. Its members are landowners, loggers, sawmill owners, wood product owners, and friends of forestry; and

WHEREAS, the association strives to educate and inform landowners about efficient practices in growing and sustaining woodlands by publishing a biannual newsletter and hosting an annual dinner meeting, spring and fall field days, and special events of interest to its members; and

WHEREAS, the WHRFA has offered tours of local sawmills and the Jack Daniel Cooperage in Alabama; members also meet at relevant sites to receive hands-on information about important topics, including timber stand improvement, prescribed burns, clearcutting for habitat, erosion control, native warm-season grasses, and tree identification; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the WHRFA partnered with the UT Extension Office to host the Woodland Stewards webcasts as well as a program on chronic wasting disease, and Dr. David Mercker, UT Extension Specialist, was the keynote speaker at WHRFA's annual meeting; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we recognize this stellar organization, which serves as a conscientious steward of the land and a staunch proponent of the forestry industry; 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 congratulate the president, board, and members of the West Highland Rim Forestry Association on being named the 2019 County Forestry Association of the Year, salute the association's ongoing commitment to forestry, and extend to these good people our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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