

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 345

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize and congratulate Ott DeFoe, winner of the Bassmaster Classic.

WHEREAS, the Bassmaster Classic is the pinnacle of competitive bass fishing; the winner of the tournament is widely considered to be the world champion of the sport, as is stated on the winner's trophy; and

WHEREAS, Ott DeFoe of Knoxville recently claimed victory at the forty-ninth Bassmaster Classic, an impressive feat and one that brings him full circle, as his dream of becoming a professional fisherman began at the age of nine, when his father, Bud DeFoe, took him to watch his first Bassmaster Classic tournament; and

WHEREAS, the location of this three-day tournament alternates each year, and this year's location was Knoxville, giving Mr. DeFoe the hometown advantage; fifty-two top anglers cast their lines each day into the waters of Fort Loudon and Tellico lakes, then weighed their fish inside Thompson-Boling Arena in front of the largest crowd in the competition's forty-nine-year history; and

WHEREAS, Ott DeFoe took the lead on day one, with his five best fish totaling twenty pounds; he also nabbed the biggest catch of the day with a six-pound largemouth; after falling behind Tennessee native Jacob Wheeler on day two, Mr. DeFoe came back to claim ultimate victory with five bass totaling 18 pounds, 14 ounces, making his tournament total 49 pounds, 3 ounces; and

WHEREAS, after having made seven previous appearances in the Bassmaster Classic, Mr. DeFoe claimed victory on his eighth attempt, pocketing \$300,000 in prize money; he adds this to his previous total winnings of \$1.3 million, which he had earned in 103 tournament appearances since 2010; and

WHEREAS, Mr. DeFoe has made his home State proud with his recent victory, and it is most fitting that we honor him at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize and congratulate Ott DeFoe, winner of the Bassmaster Classic, extending our best wishes to him for much 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.