

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 718

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Phil Hunter upon his receipt of the J.W. Massengill Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award.

WHEREAS, agriculture has been a cornerstone of Tennessee's economy since our founding in 1796, and those citizens involved in agriculture have always been vital to the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly specially recognize those outstanding citizens who have dedicated their lives to agricultural research; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Phil Hunter, renowned for his extensive work with University of Tennessee Agricultural Research, was recently honored with the J.W. Massengill Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award at the thirty-first annual Farm-City Banquet; and

WHEREAS, a native of Greene County, Dr. Hunter first worked for University of Tennessee Agricultural Research at the Highland Rim Experiment Station before transferring to the Greeneville Tobacco Experiment Station, where he served as superintendent; and

WHEREAS, under his inspired leadership, the Greeneville Tobacco Experiment Station was at the forefront of burley tobacco research, developing new varieties and reducing labor costs for production and market preparation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hunter worked closely with East Tennessee Extension agents in developing the Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo at the Greeneville Station; and

WHEREAS, he was also a member of the steering committee for the Southeastern Forage and Grassland Expo in 1987 and coordinated three farm tours; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hunter has proudly served the agricultural community as a member of the Greene County Fair Board of Directors and the Greene County Partnership Agribusiness Committee; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman of many talents, Dr. Hunter has served as chair of the Greeneville Noon Exchange Club's Field Day for local schools and taught at Walters State Community College; and

WHEREAS, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree from the University of Tennessee and earned his Ph.D. in Agronomy from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Dr. Hunter is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Stella, and their sons, Matthew and Ben; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor Dr. Phil Hunter for his lifetime of service to agriculture and the farming community; 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 honor and congratulate Dr. Phil Hunter upon his receipt of the J.W. Massengill Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award as we salute his many contributions to agricultural research in Tennessee.

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.