

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 608  
By Davis

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Shirley Duer on her meritorious service to the Tennessee General Assembly and the state of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to our colleague, Representative Shirley Duer of Crossville, who has served the good people of House District 25 with the utmost in probity, industry and integrity for sixteen years, from the Ninety-Second through the Ninety-Ninth General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Shirley attended Huntington College in Montgomery, Alabama; she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Tennessee Technological University and continued her education at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1988; and

WHEREAS, her desire to serve the people of Tennessee and the Upper Cumberland region led her to successfully seek a seat as a delegate to the important 1977 Constitutional Convention, and the delegates wisely chose her to be the convention secretary. Her term as secretary was highly praised; and

WHEREAS, when Lamar Alexander was elected governor, he wisely selected her to serve as director of the Cookeville office, an important position which she held admirably from 1978-1980; and

WHEREAS, Shirley sought and won a seat in the House of Representatives in 1980 and has been a valuable asset to the legislature and the citizens of her district, getting easily reelected; and

WHEREAS, she served expertly as Republican Whip for six years, from the Ninety-Fourth through the Ninety-Sixth General Assemblies, and as Caucus Chair during the Ninety-Seventh General Assembly, the first woman of either political party to be so honored; and

WHEREAS, Representative Duer has served as a very knowledgeable member of the House Health and Human Resources and Transportation Committees, and the Select Committee on Children and Youth, serving as a valuable source of information for members both old and new; and

WHEREAS, she has also served expertly as Vice-Chair of the Committee on Traumatic Head Injuries during the Ninety-Seventh and Ninety-Eighth General Assemblies, and as Vice-Chair of the Task Force on Adolescent Development and Well Being; and

WHEREAS, Shirley also served astutely as a delegate to the 1988 Republican National Convention; and

WHEREAS, in the finest traditions of the Volunteer State, she has been and continues to be a tireless worker for a large number of civic and charitable groups; and

WHEREAS, Representative Duer's lengthy and productive service to her community includes being a member of the board of directors and past-president of Tennessee Leadership, the Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce, the American Business Women's Association, the Cumberland County Association of Retarded Persons, the Cumberland County Farm Bureau, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Cumberland County Republican Women and the Cumberland County Medical Auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Duer is fortunate to share both love and companionship with her husband, Carl, their children, Michelle Elise Landou, Elizabeth Sherrill Duer and Carl Thomas Duer, Jr., and three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, we deeply regret that she has announced her intention not to seek reelection to the House because we will miss her friendly manner and smile, wise counsel and insight; and

WHEREAS, Shirley is the perfect example of a person totally committed to family and the highest ideals of public service, and it is appropriate that her long career of serving the public good should be honored and commended; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Representative Shirley Duer for her meritorious service and unflagging commitment to public service.

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