

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 99

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Representative Ira Curtis Halford of Dyer.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of our colleague Representative Curtis Halford of Dyer, a lifelong Tennessean who believed strongly in the power of service, love, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, a seven-term member of the House of Representatives, Curtis Halford ably represented the good people of Gibson and part of Carroll counties during his illustrious tenure in the General Assembly, which spanned the 106<sup>th</sup> through 112<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, first elected in 2008, Representative Halford worked tirelessly to advocate for his constituents, earning the respect of both his colleagues and the communities he represented; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to public service and his dedication to improving the lives of his fellow Tennesseans ensured his legacy as a leader who worked with integrity and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Curtis Halford served as chair of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for ten years and was a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Environment Standing Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, he was also a valuable member of the House committees on Calendar and Rules, State Government, and Transportation; and

WHEREAS, Representative Halford had been honored with numerous awards and accolades for his dedicated legislative service, including being named the Northwest Tennessee Development District's Legislator of the Year for 2011 and 2015 and the Tennessee Veterinary Medicine Association's Legislator of the Year for 2015 and receiving the HBAT Housing Hero

Award in 2017 and the Emergency Management Association of Tennessee Award of Appreciation in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Halford began his illustrious career in public service as a member of the Gibson County Commission and had also served on the Gibson County Planning Commission and with the Gibson County Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, a proud veteran, Curtis Halford had served in the United States Air Force Reserve and as Civilian Advisor to the Commanding General of the Tennessee State Guard; and

WHEREAS, he was a proud graduate of Kenton High School, the Newbern Area Vocational Technical School of Drafting, and Draughons Business College; and

WHEREAS, a devoted Christian, Curtis Halford worshipped at Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Dyer, where he served as an Elder; and

WHEREAS, his family was his greatest joy, and he took great pride in their accomplishments while cherishing their happiness; and

WHEREAS, Curtis Halford is survived by his wife of fifty-nine years, Charlotte; children, Lori and Brad; grandchildren, Kate, Charlotte, Noah, Jeremiah, and Titus; and great-grandchild, Asher; and

WHEREAS, Representative Halford touched many lives through his kindness, wisdom, and commitment to making Tennessee an even better place, and he will be fondly remembered for his warm and generous spirit; and

WHEREAS, for fourteen years, Curtis Halford was a vital member of this body, and his passing leaves a void in his community and this State that will not be easily filled; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of our colleague Ira Curtis Halford, reflecting fondly upon his numerous contributions to good government in Tennessee and his legacy of effective public service in his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and extend our condolences to Representative Halford's family and many friends.

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.