

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 150

By Sargent

A RESOLUTION to commemorate “March for Meals Month” in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the National March for Meals Campaign in March 2002 to recognize the historic month and the importance of Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs—both congregate and home-delivered—and raise awareness regarding the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 observance of the March for Meals campaign provides an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering, and raising awareness concerning senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, the local provider of Meals on Wheels services in Middle Tennessee is Mid-Cumberland Human Resource Agency; and that agency’s volunteers logged over 45,000 hours and 350,000 miles for the program; and

WHEREAS, Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs—both congregate and home-delivered—in Tennessee have served our communities admirably for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels programs in Tennessee are the backbone of the program, and they deliver not only nutritious meals to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Tennessee provide nutritious meals to seniors throughout the State and help them maintain their health and independence while avoiding unnecessary hospitalizations or premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Tennessee also provide a powerful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to combat loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Tennessee deserve recognition for the contributions they have made and will continue to make to local communities and our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby applaud Meals on Wheels as they commemorate March 2015 as “March for Meals Month” in Tennessee, and applaud the Meals on Wheels programs and volunteers across our State who enrich our communities by helping combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

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