

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 205

By Fincher

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Azurae Johnson upon being chosen for a research fellowship with the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to salute those young citizens, who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as emerging professional and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary individual is Azurae Johnson, a freshman at Tennessee Technological University (TTU), who recently received a competitive and illustrious undergraduate research fellowship with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); and

WHEREAS, Azurae Johnson is highly regarded by her peers and the faculty at TTU, where she has developed an excellent academic foundation allowing her to pursue a future in biomolecular chemical engineering research; and

WHEREAS, under the tutelage of her trusted advisor, Dr. Holy Stretz, and Department of Chemical Engineering Chair Dr. Pedro Arce, Azurae Johnson has demonstrated her astute research abilities in nanocomposite research studies while participating in extensive training with TTU's Chemical Engineering Nanocomposite Research Team; and

WHEREAS, encouragement from the faculty members and the Chemical Engineering Female Mentoring Group at TTU has instilled in Miss Johnson the freedom and courage to explore her own research projects in her pursuit of academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, due to her many scholastic achievements, Azurae Johnson was granted the tremendous honor of a summer fellowship with NIST; she is only the second TTU student ever chosen for this distinguished fellowship; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1901, the NIST is a non-regulatory federal agency within the United States Department of Commerce that promotes innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance security and improve our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Azurae Johnson has evidenced an unswerving commitment to excellence which has earned her many awards and decorations, including winning the grand prize at the annual TTU Science and Engineering Fair and garnering the Eastman Chemical Company Merit Award after presenting her research at the 2008 American Institute of Chemical Engineering National Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the list of achievements by Miss Johnson is voluminous and she has demonstrated the utmost professionalism and ability while presenting her research at the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair; as one of forty undergraduate researchers from Tennessee, she participated in the 2009 event "Posters at the Capital" in which student researchers showcase their research findings in poster presentations for the state legislators; and

WHEREAS, Azurae Johnson's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Azurae Johnson upon being chosen for a distinguished research fellowship with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and extend to her our best wishes in what is sure to be a bright future.

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