

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 206

By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to honor Kelsie Jones on the occasion of his retirement from the State Board of Equalization.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their careers to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, for the past forty years, Kelsie Jones has rendered exemplary service to the State of Tennessee, playing an important role in making government work better; he is now taking a much-deserved retirement from his duties as executive secretary of the State Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie Jones began his employment with the State of Tennessee in 1976 as an analyst with the General Assembly; during the next eight years, he served as legal counsel to the General Assembly, the Department of Agriculture, and the Tennessee Health Care Association; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, Mr. Jones joined the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury to serve as the executive secretary of the State Board of Equalization; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure with the Comptroller, Kelsie Jones has deftly managed the Board's staff in hearing statewide property tax appeals for farm, residential, commercial, and public utility properties; reviewing determinations involving religious, charitable, and related property tax exemptions; and providing support to the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers, Mr. Jones has completed various appraisal and assessment courses offered by the Appraisal Institute and the International Association of Assessing Officers; and

WHEREAS, he has served on planning committees for the Wichita Appraisal Workshop for Public Utility and Transportation Property and the National Conference of State Tax Judges; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones shares responsibility as administrative judge for the Tennessee Assessment Appeals Commission, and he has authored numerous decisions, presentations, and memoranda on property tax issues, as well as dozens of amendments to Tennessee property tax statutes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones has earned a reputation as a servant leader who is patient with others and always willing to help, always evidencing a judicial demeanor and a true passion for property law; and

WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis and the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones is an active member of the Smyrna United Methodist Church, where he sings in the choir; and

WHEREAS, in his spare time, he enjoys various outdoor activities, including sailing, biking, hiking, and playing pick-up basketball at his local YMCA; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Kelsie Jones is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Deborah Jones; their sons, Taylor and Brian; and their daughter-in-law, Kyoko; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie Jones is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that on the occasion of his retirement from the State Board of Equalization, we honor and commend Kelsie Jones for his forty years of commitment and contributions to good government in Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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