

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 250

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Robert Bosch LLC and Mark Lenz on receiving the Silver Star of Excellence from the American Technical Education Association, in conjunction with the National Technical Honor Society.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those private concerns and their employees who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Robert Bosch LLC and its Senior Training and Development Leader, Mark Lenz, were honored recently with the Silver Star of Excellence, which was conferred upon them at the American Technical Education Association's (ATEA) forty-sixth National Conference on Technical Education, held in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, the Silver Star of Excellence is jointly awarded by the ATEA and the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) for demonstrated support of and commitment to postsecondary technical education; and

WHEREAS, the ATEA is a professional association of technical educators devoted to advancing postsecondary education by connecting professionals and educators and promoting the highest standards in the field, while the NTHS is an academic honor society that recognizes student achievement, encourages academic excellence, and enhances career opportunities for its student members; and

WHEREAS, in honor of his efforts, Mr. Lenz will also be listed in the NTHS National Hall of Fame for Educational Excellence; and

WHEREAS, postsecondary technical institutions submit nominations for the award on behalf of companies that have donated equipment, facilities, training, financial assistance, and

internships; these companies typically provide the membership for various advisory committees as well; and

WHEREAS, Robert Bosch LLC and Mr. Lenz were nominated by the Tennessee Technology Center (TTC) at Dickson-Clarksville Campus; TTC and Bosch have worked together to develop a Mechatronics Apprenticeship Program, and Mr. Lenz served as Lead on that project; and

WHEREAS, the Robert Bosch LLC Clarksville Plant identified the need for such a program and through careful evaluation, the TTC at Dickson-Clarksville Campus was selected as its host; and

WHEREAS, in order to support the Apprenticeship Program, Bosch donated idled equipment, tooling, cabinets, and work benches to TTC's Dickson-Clarksville Campus, while TTC invested the funds necessary to upgrade its equipment and shop areas; and

WHEREAS, moreover, Robert Bosch LLC has demonstrated its commitment to technical education by paying for tuition and the cost of books and tooling on behalf of apprentices in the program, who also receive regular hourly wages and benefits from the company while attending forty to forty-eight hours of training each week; Bosch technicians provide instructional support for every class as well; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Mr. Lenz, other Bosch employees have contributed their time and energy to the establishment of the program, including Maintenance Manager Andy Greene, Senior Facilities Supervisor David Thompson, and Senior BPS Implementor Ray Usina; and

WHEREAS, currently, Robert Bosch LLC is collaborating with the TTC at Dickson-Clarksville Campus to expand the Mechatronics Apprenticeship Program into a degree program; they will soon submit a formal proposal for this expansion to the Tennessee Board of Regents for consideration; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Robert Bosch LLC and Mark Lenz for their dedication to technical education in this State; 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 hereby honor and congratulate Robert Bosch LLC and its Senior Training and Development Leader, Mark Lenz, on receiving the Silver Star of Excellence from the American Technical Education Association and the National Technical Honor Society for their ongoing commitment to technical education in the State of Tennessee, and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

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