

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 355

By Camper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Officer Geoffrey "Bernard" Redd of the Memphis Police Department.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Officer Geoffrey "Bernard" Redd of the Memphis Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Officer Geoffrey Redd was critically injured in the line of duty on February 2, 2023, and gave his life on February 18, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Officer Redd possessed a strong work ethic and a positive attitude, and his last day on Earth mirrored every work day before it in that he was faithfully protecting and serving the good citizens of Memphis to the best of his considerable abilities; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Redd was born on December 1, 1973, to Mrs. Eddie Renee Campbell, and he grew up in Mississippi with Lonnie E. James, who raised him as his son; and

WHEREAS, Officer Redd graduated from Tupelo High School in Mississippi and subsequently enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he proudly served the 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment until 1996; and

WHEREAS, after his military service, he enrolled in the IMACA Education Foundation and trained to earn his service certification in motor vehicle air conditioning; he completed motor coach training in air conditioning diagnosis and services in Phoenix, Arizona, and later, after he received an Associate of Applied Science degree in Diesel Technology, he worked as a diesel mechanic; and

WHEREAS, Officer Redd began his career with the Memphis Police Department as a member of the recruiting class of 2008; he served as a respected Tennessee Peace Officer, a field training officer, and a member of the Crisis Intervention Team; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure with the Memphis Police Department, Officer Redd served with acumen and alacrity at several stations in the community, including Old Allen, Union, Raines, Mt. Moriah, Ridgeway, and Appling Farms; and

WHEREAS, with more than fifteen years of continued service to the citizens of Memphis, Officer Redd was an esteemed law enforcement professional; he was loyal to his fellow colleagues, and he was greatly admired by them in return; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Redd found his faith at an early age as a member of Springhill Baptist Church in Tupelo, Mississippi; he continued to grow in spirit and faith at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, Greater Deliverance Tabernacle Holiness Church, and the Dyersburg Christian Center; and

WHEREAS, Officer Redd was a faithful servant of the Lord, and he was ordained at the hand of Bishop Arije; in 2010, he served as a co-founder of the Divine Vision Christian Church International with his cousin Pastor Quantral M. Fletcher; and

WHEREAS, he visited the Greater Community Temple COGIC on several occasions and became a member on March 1, 2020; after he was appointed, he became the Chief of Security and served as a Sunday School teacher; and

WHEREAS, in December 2022, Officer Redd enrolled in the International Sunday School Department TEAC Certification program and had submitted his final project, titled "Stand Firm," to complete the program; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Redd was a doting father to his beloved daughters, Ashleeauna, Summerr Destinyy, and Bethanny Autumnn Redd, and a loving husband to his wife, Kimberly Lynn Redd; and

WHEREAS, he is also sadly missed but fondly remembered by his mother and devoted father figure; his children-in-love, Whitney, Wendy, and Walter Sheppard III; his grandchildren, Journee Floyd, Ilani Redd, Ailyn Redd, Jaxxon'Ace Wilson, and Aaliyah; his siblings, Sondra (Will) James, Justin James, and Kenya (Corey) Layrock; an aunt, LeTonya Fletcher; an uncle, Sheikh Muhammad Ziyad; his cousins, Quantral, LeKeasha, Willie, and Katina; and a host of nieces, nephews, close friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Officer Geoffrey Redd brought great credit to the badge and uniform of the Memphis Police Department, and it is only fitting that we should pay tribute to his bountiful life on this sad occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Officer Geoffrey "Bernard" Redd of the Memphis Police Department, reflecting fondly upon his enduring legacy as a dedicated law enforcement officer who lost his life while proudly serving his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our sympathy and condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Officer Redd.

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.