

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 917

By Hemmer

A RESOLUTION to commend and congratulate author S.H. "Bo" Roberts, Jr., of Nashville upon the publication of his second book.

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

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is S.H. "Bo" Roberts, Jr., of Nashville, a celebrated author and influential voice in contemporary political discourse who recently published *Flaming Moderate: A Riveting Journey and Quest to Save Democracy*, a book that describes, praises, and encourages leaders of both political parties as they take on the extremely difficult task of making our democracy work for everyone; and

WHEREAS, his latest publication follows his first memoir, *Forever Young*, and weaves personal anecdotes into a larger narrative of passion, reason, and collective action toward societal challenges; through a collection of columns he published this century, Bo Roberts offers readers a call to action, inspiring them to wield their power to confront adversity and shape a better future; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts began his writing career in the 1960s; he became the youngest newspaper editor in the country and went on to become the "youngest-ever" for a variety of posts: cabinet-level chief of staff for a Tennessee governor, vice president of the University of Tennessee (UT), Knoxville, and CEO of an international exposition, when he was named president of the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, his extensive, versatile career also includes work as a partner in a Nashville communications and publishing company before transitioning to lead his own boutique marketing consulting firm, Roberts Strategies LLC; and

WHEREAS, often duly recognized for his good work, Bo Roberts is a recipient of UT's Ernie Pyle Memorial Award, Sigma Delta Chi Award, and the Edward J. Meeman Foundation Award for editorial writing; he was recently honored by the UT Alumni Association with the Outstanding Advocate Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts was designated by Governor Buford Ellington to serve on the National Governors' Conference Committee on State-Urban Relations and is a past member of the Tennessee Commission on Intergovernmental Affairs, the Board of Control of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, the Advisory Committee of Tennessee Industrial Research Service, and the Democratic Platform Committee Staff; and

WHEREAS, he is a past co-chairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission and past chairman of the Tennessee State Fair Commission; he currently serves as a board member of the Nashville Sports Council and a member of UT's Alumni Legislative Council and is a consultant to the Music City Bowl, the Tennessee Road Builders Association Foundation, and Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many successes, he has enjoyed the love and support of his beloved wife (and editor), Leigh Hendry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roberts epitomizes the spirit and commitment to community and the democratic process that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly acknowledge and applaud Bo Roberts for his dedication to civil political discourse; 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 commend and congratulate S.H. "Bo" Roberts, Jr., upon the publication of his second book, *Flaming Moderate: A Riveting Journey and Quest to Save Democracy*, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success.

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.