

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 938

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Thelma Nelms, Third Annual Living Legend Awards honoree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable individuals who have dedicated their time and energies toward enhancing the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Thelma Nelms, who is being honored at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the leadership and service she has provided to the people of Memphis and Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, the Third Annual Living Legend Awards ceremony, which honors Harriet Tubman and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis on March 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Nelms is a product of inner-city Memphis who overcame poverty and numerous other obstacles to achieve great success in life; and

WHEREAS, intent on serving mankind, Ms. Nelms is a dedicated counselor who provides basic life coaching to people from all walks of life; in addition to her focus on workplace and family issues, she provides counseling on anger management and violence prevention; and

WHEREAS, she previously served as a teacher and coordinator with Memphis City Schools and held several management positions in the fields of employee mental health assistance and equal opportunity employment with the United States Postal Service (USPS); she also served as the deputy chairperson for the Combined Federal Campaign in Memphis and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Nelms continues to give back to her community as executive secretary of the Memphis Literacy Council and a member of the board of trustees of Progressive Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, her most prized accomplishment is her forty years of faithful and compassionate service as the founder and executive director of Mission Possible: Christian Outreach Service Mission, an inner-city mission in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Ms. Nelms has received the award for Federal Employee of the Year for Outstanding Community Services, for which she was selected from among 15,000 employees; Affirmative Action Eagle Award from USPS; Combined Federal Campaign Award from the United Way; and National Federal Employed Women Award; and

WHEREAS, she holds an Associate of Arts degree from Owen Junior College, a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Distributive Education from Memphis State University, and a Master of Science degree in Counseling from George Peabody College and Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Nelms is an exemplary individual; her commitment to excellence and community service is representative of the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Thelma Nelms upon her recognition at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud her outstanding community leadership, and extend our best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors.

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.