

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 998

By Moon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend AMVETS Post 22 in Blount County.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to pay tribute to those exemplary organizations and their members who give unselfishly of themselves, their time, and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, chartered only two years ago in Blount County, AMVETS Post 22, the Michael H. Ferschke Memorial Post, is most assuredly one such extraordinary organization deserving of praise and commendation; and

WHEREAS, established in March 2016 with ten founding members, AMVETS Post 22 now boasts a total membership of 203 veterans and has made a tremendous impact on the veterans population in their area through a number of outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, AMVETS Post 22 has set as its mission the enhancement and protection of entitlements for all Blount County veterans and improvement of the quality of life for them, their families, and the communities in which they live; and

WHEREAS, in accomplishing its mission, AMVETS Post 22 has sought to provide veterans and their families with a variety of community resources, including an Empty Pantry Fund, donations to Toys for Tots, Vet to Vet counseling, care packages for deployed veterans, coats and blankets for veterans and their families, and repairs to veterans' homes through their Hero's Home Repair program; and

WHEREAS, AMVETS Post 22 and its members have also sponsored PTSD dogs, partnered with Blount County Habitat for Humanity, volunteered at Second Harvest Food Bank, held blood drives, erected a flag pole at the Heritage High School soccer facilities, and visited area nursing homes and retirement facilities; and

WHEREAS, working with area youth, AMVETS Post 22 has awarded medals for the past two years to the Cadet of the Year and the Freshman Cadet of the Year in both local JROTC programs and, in 2018, will award a \$250 scholarship to the top cadet of each program who will be entering military service or enrolling in college; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor the esteemed members of AMVETS Post 22 in Blount County; 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 we honor and commend the members of AMVETS Post 22, the Michael H. Ferschke Memorial Post, upon their meritorious service to the United States and their fellow veterans as we extend our best wishes for continued success in all their endeavors.

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