

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1005

By Shaw

A RESOLUTION to recognize David Whitson "Whit" Adamson on the occasion of his retirement as president of the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have served Tennessee's broadcasting industry with the greatest acumen, commitment, and proficiency; and

WHEREAS, David Whitson "Whit" Adamson is taking a much-deserved retirement after thirty-three years of outstanding service as president of the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters (TAB); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Adamson began his illustrious tenure with TAB in July 1987, and since that time, he has served the broadcasting industry with distinction in myriad ways; and

WHEREAS, he has worked closely with boards of directors and station owners and managers; served as an advocate for the industry at both the state and federal levels of government; conferred with lobbyists, attorneys, engineers, trainers, schools and universities, the Federal Communications Commission, law enforcement, and emergency managers; and participated in every aspect of state and national association affairs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Adamson has served as president of the National Alliance of State Broadcasters Associations, testified before a Congressional committee about the Nashville flood of 2010, and helped navigate the industry through the digital television transition and the implementation and administration of the statewide child abduction AMBER alert system and the statewide emergency alert system; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Leadership Music Class of 2017, he has been honored with the Nashville Advertising Federation's Silver Medal and TAB's Distinguished Service Award, the organization's highest honor; and

WHEREAS, prior to joining TAB, Mr. Adamson worked for Nashville's WSMV television station for fifteen years; beginning his tenure there with the advertising and sales department in 1973, he was eventually promoted to regional manager; and

WHEREAS, earlier in his life, he had learned to fly shortly after matriculating at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU); by earning his pilot's license, he was following a family tradition, as his mother had learned to fly at the same school during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Adamson interrupted his education in October 1967, when he joined the United States Marine Corps; he served seven months on active duty and six years in the Reserve as an air traffic controller and military police officer, attaining the rank of E5 and earning his restricted radiotelephone operator license; and

WHEREAS, after completing his military service, he returned to MTSU, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Finance with minors in English and Aviation and was a founding member of Pi Kappa Alpha, and Mid-State Flight School, where he qualified for a commercial and instructor license and earned a multi-engine and instrument rating from the Federal Aviation Administration; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from college, Mr. Adamson held several jobs in aviation before transferring his talents to the broadcasting industry; he worked for Gasser Banners towing aerial advertising and selling Bellanca aircraft; flew a Beechcraft Kingair for the Piggly Wiggly grocery chain; and sold aircraft for Southeastern Beechcraft, in addition to flying helicopters and short-take-off-and-landing aircraft; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, David Whitson Adamson is the son of David Adamson and Flora (Eskew) Adamson and the brother of Robert Victor "Vic" Adamson; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Janet (Patterson) Adamson; children, Neal

Weston Adamson, Mary Katherine "Molly" (Adamson) Bertram and Ryan Bertram, and Lillian Lee Adamson; and grandchildren, George Nolan Bertram and Kaitlyn Bertram; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Whit Adamson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity as an icon in the broadcasting industry, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, the members of this General Assembly, and a grateful public as well; 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 extend to David Whitson "Whit" Adamson our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, as we pay tribute to his exemplary tenure as president of the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters.

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.