

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1049

By Hardaway

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lawrence Johnson III of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Lawrence Johnson III; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Johnson was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Mr. Johnson established Lawrence Johnson Realtors, one of the largest and most successful real estate firms in the Mid-South, with annual sales exceeding millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Johnson served with acumen and alacrity in daily operations as a real estate broker with Graduate REALTOR® Institute designation, and he earned the respect of his agents for his exceptional leadership and his extensive real estate experience; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson's greatest achievement was becoming the first African American to be awarded Lifetime Membership with the Memphis Area Association of Realtors Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club and the title of Emeritus; and

WHEREAS, active in numerous civic, community, and professional organizations, Lawrence Johnson was a member of the National Association of Realtors; the Tennessee Association of Realtors; the Memphis Area Association of Realtors, which he served as a past member of the board of directors; the Northwest Mississippi Association of Realtors; and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, which he served as a local president; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to his Lord, Mr. Johnson was an active and devout member of Middle Baptist Church in Whitehaven, which he served faithfully for many years as a deacon; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Johnson was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Magnolia Betts-Johnson; his children, Spencer Johnson, Eric Johnson, and Elaine DeVerne Johnson-Miles; his brother, Harold Johnson; his sister, DeVerne Howell; and four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Johnson leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; 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 honor the memory of Lawrence Johnson III, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Johnson.

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.