

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1097

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to commend Representative Sam Whitson for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a member of the House of Representatives.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their districts and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Sam Whitson of Franklin is one such distinguished public servant, who has served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and ability; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on Capitol Hill, Representative Whitson has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic life of Williamson County, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, Sam Whitson has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of the 65th House District, whom he has served as a member of the 110th, 111th, 112th, and 113th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, throughout his service, Representative Whitson has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, a military veteran, Representative Sam Whitson retired at the rank of colonel from the United States Army and is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; and

WHEREAS, Representative Whitson earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University and completed his Master of Public Administration degree at the University of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process during his time in the General Assembly, Representative Sam Whitson has rendered sterling service as chair of the House Transportation Subcommittee, the House Transportation Subcommittee of the 1st Extraordinary Session, and the House Infrastructure Subcommittee, and as a member of the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, the House Health Committee, the House Transportation Committee, the House Ethics Committee, the House Select Committee on Rules, the House Select Ethics Committee, the House Finance, Ways, and Means Subcommittee, the House Workplace Discrimination and Harassment Subcommittee, the House Select Ethics Subcommittee, the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee of the 1st Extraordinary Session, the House Transportation Committee of the 1st Extraordinary Session, the House Finance, Ways, and Means Subcommittee of the 1st Extraordinary Session, the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee of the 2nd Extraordinary Session, the House COVID Related Liability Committee of the 2nd Extraordinary Session, the House Public Health Committee of the 3rd Extraordinary Session, and the Joint Council on Pensions; and

WHEREAS, Representative Whitson is a board member of the Tennessee Historical Society and serves as an advisory board member for Tennessee History for Kids, the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Healthy Parks/Healthy Person; and

WHEREAS, an active part of his community, he is a member of the Battle of Franklin Trust, the Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4893, Franklin's Charge, Inc., American Legion Post 215, Franklin Noon Rotary, Williamson, Inc., Elks Lodge No. 7, Disabled American Veterans, Save the Franklin Battlefield, and Military Officers Association of America; and

WHEREAS, Representative Whitson has served as chairman of the City of Franklin Battlefield Preservation Commission, chairman of the Carter House State Historical Site, foreman of the Williamson County Grand Jury, and board member of the Battle of Nashville Trust; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Representative Whitson has received numerous honors, including the American Legion Post 5 Senator Douglas Henry Award, the Tennessee Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics Legislator of the Year, the Fairview High School Shining Apple Volunteer Award, the Down Syndrome Association of Middle Tennessee Phyllis Gail Award, the Tennessee District Attorney's Conference Public Safety Advocate Award, the Tennessee Licensed Professional Counselors Association Legislator of the Year, National Alliance on Mental Illness Public Policy Advocacy Award, the Tennessee Engineers' Freshman Legislator of the Year, American Conservative Union Foundation Conservative Achievement, and the NFIB 2022 Guardian of Small Business Award; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career as a public servant, Sam Whitson has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents, bringing to his office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, Representative Sam Whitson is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized for his exemplary tenure in the General Assembly; 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 hereby honor Representative Sam Whitson for his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the House of Representatives, commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 65th House District, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

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.