

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1139

By Powell

A RESOLUTION to commend Sherry Jones for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, former Representative Sherry Jones is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Jones rendered sterling service during her tenure as the representative for the 59th House District, which she served as a member of the 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, and 110th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Davidson County, Representative Jones served her constituents with honor and distinction during her tenure, always working diligently at her elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of service, Representative Jones was a dedicated advocate for children, working tirelessly to enact legislation to protect the children of Tennessee and ensure that needed services are adequate, accessible, and available for all children and their families; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Jones was as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process during her time in the General Assembly and rendered sterling service as chair, vice chair, and a member of the House Children and Family Affairs Committee and as a member of the House Consumer and Employees Affairs Committee, the House Health and Human Resources Committee, the House Local Government Committee, the House Civil Justice Committee, the House Health Committee, and the House Criminal Justice Committee; and

WHEREAS, she also served with acumen and alacrity as chair and vice chair of the Joint Select Committee on Children and Youth, chair of the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence State Coordinating Council, and as a member of the Committee on Housing Solutions for Mental Health and the Tennessee Rescue and Restore Human Trafficking Committee; and

WHEREAS, Representative Sherry Jones was chair of the Davidson County Delegation for the 100th and 101st General Assemblies and served as House Democratic Caucus Whip for the 108th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Jones's public service career also includes tenures as a member of the Metro Nashville Council, representing the 30th District from 1987 to 1995, and the Metro Nashville Planning Commission from 1991 to 1994; and

WHEREAS, an individual who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, she has donated her time and energies to a number of civic, community, and charitable organizations, including CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), the board of the Mary Parrish Center, Shayne Elementary School, Rescue and Restore (human trafficking), and was a founding member of Advocates for Women's and Kid's Equality (AWAKE); and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Representative Jones has received the Legislator of the Year Namesake Award from the Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Outstanding Legislator Award from the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence, the Kinship Champion Award from the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, and the Hope Award from the Tennessee Youth Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Jones's many honors also include the Senior Citizens Leadership Award, the Tennessee Development District Association Leadership Award, the AARP Legislative Leadership Award, the Tennessee Association of Social Workers Leadership Award, the Family and Children's Services Leadership Award, the ARC Outstanding Leadership Award, the Mid-Cumberland Council on Children and Youth Leadership Award, the Tennessee

Commission on Children and Youth Leadership Award, the Tennessee State Employees Leadership Award, the Tennessee Conservation Voters Award, the United Way Legislator of the Year, the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic Violence Representative of the Year, and nomination for the Athena Award; and

WHEREAS, during her illustrious career, Sherry Jones has been honored by countless national, state, and local groups and organizations, including Vanderbilt Law School, Metro Nashville Firefighters, the AFL-CIO, ARC, and HOPE, an organization of foster children, to name but a very few of her honors; and

WHEREAS, Representative Sherry Jones is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and she should be specially recognized; 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 commend former Representative Sherry Jones for her honorable and astute service to the good people of Davidson County and this State and salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

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.