

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 52

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Charles W. Kelley, Sr.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reverend Charles W. Kelley Sr. of Rockwood, a veteran, religious leader, inspiring pastor, humble servant of God, and faithful friend; and

WHEREAS, after serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, Reverend Kelley dedicated his life to ministry in the Big Emory Baptist Association, pastoring at Beech Park, Pond Grove, First Baptist Church Oakdale, and Clymersville Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Kelley established and served as pastor for thirty-nine years at Clymersville Baptist Church, laying a cornerstone that will be built upon for years to come, and ultimately retired at eighty with a full life of prayerful mission completed; and

WHEREAS, he was known as a man of God and led his people, both old and new, to discover the graces in this pilgrimage, and he confirmed and comforted his people in faith, whether marking the new beginnings of marriages or commemorating at funerals those who have fallen asleep; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his passing, Reverend Kelley was a member of Riverside Baptist Church and Masonic Lodge 409 F&AM; he had previously served as past Master of the Oakdale lodge and received his fifty-year service pin for the Masons and Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his good work from the pulpit and beyond, Reverend Kelley was wholly devoted to his family and friends, and he is still cherished and remembered by his daughter Sharon (Larry) Barker; his son Reverend Jasper Greg (Julie) Kelly; his brother James (Molly) Kelly; his son-in-law Reverend John Burris; his grandchildren, Reverend Jeff (Justine) Burris, Joel (Ann) Burris, Iesha (Billy) Meiste, Selena Wiley, Charles "Wade" (Leslie) Kelly III,

Lachelle (Danny) Patterson, Lanette (Larry) Griffith, AnnaLauren Kelly, and Jackson Kelly; nineteen great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren; and many others whose lives he touched; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Jasper and Eula Kelly; his wife Mary Evans Kelley; his sons Charles W. "Chuck" Kelly, Jr., and infant Claude Kelley; his daughters Jeannie Burris, Lynn Huskins, and Teresa "Terry" Kelly; his son-in-law Lonnie Huskins; his grandson Timothy Huskins; and his infant great-great-granddaughter Isabella Elyse Baker; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Kelley served his faith and his community with distinction for more than six decades, and he should be remembered for his many contributions and the example he set for others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Charles Kelley, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his resolute service to God and humanity, and extend our sympathy and condolences to his family and many friends.

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.