

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 61

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Billy Ray Helton, Sr., of Lawrenceburg.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Billy Ray Helton, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton 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, a native of Lawrenceburg, Mr. Helton served with acumen and alacrity as the president and chief executive officer of Lawrenceburg Federal Bank for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his career in banking, he served as a trustee for Freed-Hardeman University, commissioner of finance for Lawrenceburg, and vice mayor of Lawrenceburg; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Helton was an active and devout member of the Pulaski Street Church of Christ, which he served faithfully for many years as an elder, deacon, and teacher; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Mr. Helton always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Billy Helton enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Donna G. Abrams Helton, who preceded him in death; he was the proud father of Billy R. "Biff" (Penny) Helton, Jr., Angie (Terry) Wright, Andrea Helton, and Holly (Daniel) Winkler; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his eleven grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his wife, Mr. Helton was preceded in death by his parents, William and Edna Jackson Helton, and two siblings, Gene Helton and Betty Brewer; and

WHEREAS, Billy Helton 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 SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Billy Ray Helton, Sr., 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. Helton.

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.