

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 154

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to commend Ivy Academy upon its receipt of the 2024 Charter Champion Award for Community Impact Project of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pay tribute to those educational institutions that, through the natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence evidenced by their administration, faculty, staff, and students, have earned prestigious acclaim; and

WHEREAS, Ivy Academy in Soddy Daisy is one such exemplary institution, which recently earned the 2024 Charter Champion Award for Community Impact Project of the Year for their Emergency Solar Power Backpacks Project; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Champion Award for Community Impact Project of the Year is given by the Tennessee Charter School Center to a school, small group, or individual to recognize exceptional service to an organization, school, or community through innovative projects designed to positively impact and inspire both educational professionals and students; and

WHEREAS, for their Emergency Solar Power Backpacks Project, Ivy Academy students, along with their STEM teacher Jerry Webb, designed, created, and are donating emergency solar power backpacks to aid in both humanitarian crises and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, Ivy students designed a prototype of the backpack with a foldable solar panel, lithium battery, charge controller, and inverter; they then tested the backpack in real-life scenarios, spending a day learning outside while using the solar power to charge devices like Chromebooks, phones, and small electronics, confirming comfort, ease of use, and reliability; and

WHEREAS, Ivy Academy students are now working on twenty emergency solar power backpacks, sending five to students in Ukraine, utilizing five to raise awareness locally, and sending ten to students in North Carolina who were impacted by the 2024 hurricane; and

WHEREAS, Ivy students have done a number of presentations on the backpacks and have been awarded thousands of dollars to support their work; they are also working with other students in the community to share what they have learned; and

WHEREAS, the ingenuity, determination, and compassion of the students at Ivy Academy are a tremendous source of pride for the school's administration, teachers, students, parents, and community; and

WHEREAS, Ivy Academy is clearly deserving of our respect, admiration, and commendation, and it is our privilege to recognize their outstanding achievement; 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 congratulate Ivy Academy upon its receipt of the 2024 Charter Champion Award for Community Impact Project of the Year, saluting Ivy students and STEM teacher Jerry Webb on this prestigious honor and extending to them our best wishes for much continued success.

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.