

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 162

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Willie Bales upon being named a "Super Senior" by the *Morgan County News*.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor and recognize those senior citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bales is certainly one such outstanding senior citizen who was named a "Super Senior" by the *Morgan County News*; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bales is a highly respected member of the Coalfield community and always displays the greatest probity and integrity in each of her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, born in Harlan, Kentucky on January 15, 1926, Willie Bales was raised in LaFollette, Anderson County, Norris Dam, and Oak Ridge, before making Coalfield her permanent home; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bales exudes pride in her roots which were planted at the hands of a loving mother, Isabell Wilson, and father, William Luther Wilson, who worked both as a Baptist minister and a coal miner; and

WHEREAS, dressed in an exquisite wedding gown made of German silk that her future husband had acquired while serving as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne, Willie Bales was joined in holy matrimony with Jimmy Bales on September 14, 1946; and

WHEREAS, the blessed union produced two children: Rebecca Treece and James Bales, and the loving couple enjoyed sixty years of marital bliss together before Mr. Bales went onto receive his great reward; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bales rendered sterling service in Dr. Van Hook's Oliver Springs office before finding her true calling in the hearing aid industry; and

WHEREAS, for the past forty years, Mrs. Bales has served with acumen and alacrity at Audibel Hearing in Oak Ridge, where she has earned the respect of her peers and superiors alike due to her compassionate nature, her tireless work ethic, and the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bales is also a dedicated civic leader and has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order as an active participant in the WMU and a valued member of the Sunrise Chapter Order of the Eastern Star no. 364 in Petros for more than half a century; and

WHEREAS, a woman of faith, Mrs. Bales is an devout member of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, where she serves her Lord as a member of the choir, founder of the Living Christmas Tree program, and Sunday School teacher for more than thirty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Willie Bales takes pleasure in the simple things in life, such as hosting family dinners, playing a variety of sports, and treasuring her collection of teapots that she has received from family and friends throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Mrs. Bales is most grateful for the love and support she shares with her children; her three grandchildren, David Treece, Tiffany McConkie, and Bryant Bales; and her three great-grandchildren, Ian McConkie and Luke and Jackson Treece; and

WHEREAS, the success of this State, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as Willie Bales who use their considerable talents and resources to serve their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bales has demonstrated a wholehearted commitment to the noble precepts that have earned Tennessee that proud moniker, the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Willie Bales upon being named a "Super

Senior” by the *Morgan County News*, commend her astute service to the people of her community and this State, and wish her every success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.