

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 724

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor Russell Biven on the occasion of his retirement from television.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing those media professionals who contributed significantly to their communities during their careers; and

WHEREAS, for more than two decades, East Tennessee television viewers appreciated both the humor and compassion of Russell Biven of Knoxville's WBIR; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Biven has recently retired from television to pursue a new career path outside of media; and

WHEREAS, Russell Biven began his tenure with WBIR as a sports anchor in 1999, but he soon took his love of storytelling and community involvement in a new direction as the host of *Live at Five at Four*; and

WHEREAS, a few years later, he accepted a dual anchor role at the station and started appearing earlier in the day on *10News Today*; and

WHEREAS, his long and distinguished career at WBIR featured live roadshows, big event coverage, great stories, emotional interviews, and many memorable moments on both programs; and

WHEREAS, passionate about helping those in need, Mr. Biven has raised significant funds for Mission of Hope and the McNabb Center, providing clothing, toys, and holiday joy for children throughout the Knoxville community; and

WHEREAS, Russell Biven served his colleagues as a coach and mentor, and he will be greatly missed by the entire WBIR family, in addition to thousands of loyal viewers; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Biven demonstrated a remarkable commitment to informing and entertaining his audience, thus winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the Knoxville community; and

WHEREAS, we wish to recognize and commend Russell Biven on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Russell Biven of WBIR on his twenty-year-plus career on Knoxville television and wish him all the best in his 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.