

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 753

By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to recognize Battalion Chief Jimmy Jennings of the Franklin Fire Department on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable person is Battalion Chief Jimmy Jennings, who served with distinction for twenty-five years with the Franklin Fire Department and took his well-deserved retirement on December 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a Dickson native, Battalion Chief Jennings graduated from Dickson County High School before following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather and becoming a firefighter; and

WHEREAS, after five years of service with the Dickson Fire Department, Battalion Chief Jimmy Jennings was hired by Chief Sam Liggett of the Franklin Fire Department in 1994; at the time, the department had only two stations with a third under construction; and

WHEREAS, Battalion Chief Jennings rose through the ranks of the Franklin Fire Department as a firefighter, engineer, lieutenant, and captain, and he was promoted to battalion chief in 2014; and

WHEREAS, as the battalion chief of training, he was responsible for recruit firefighter training, developmental in-service training, federal and State certifications and compliance, multi-company drills, and new equipment training for a department that now consists of eight stations and a training center; he oversaw the training of seven recruit firefighter classes, which represented eighty-one firefighters and nine Middle Tennessee fire departments; and

WHEREAS, Battalion Chief Jennings selflessly dedicated countless hours to the citizens of Franklin to ensure their safety, most notably during the May 2010 flood; in a span of twenty-

four hours, he and other firefighters rescued a woman who was trapped on top of her car, fought the rising blazes as two homes caught fire after an explosion, and rescued two volunteer firefighters who became trapped on top of a truck during an attempt to rescue the man inside the vehicle; and

WHEREAS, for his bravery and dedication during the May 2010 flood, Battalion Chief Jimmy Jennings was awarded two Medals of Valor and a Meritorious Service Award; he was previously the recipient of the 2009 Phoenix Award for saving the life of an individual who was experiencing cardiac arrest; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Battalion Chief Jennings was deployed to Gold Beach, Oregon, with the Tennessee Incident Management Team to assist with the management of the Klondike Wildfire, which burned more than 175,000 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, Battalion Chief Jimmy Jennings is an accomplished fire investigator who is a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators and first vice president of its Tennessee chapter; he is also a past president of the Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson and a member of the National Association of Fire Investigators; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Battalion Chief Jennings demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and the citizens of his community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that, on behalf of a grateful public, we extend to Battalion Chief Jimmy Jennings of the Franklin Fire Department our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success 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.