

SENATE RESOLUTION 3

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to commend Robert Glenn Officer on his election as the Most Excellent Great Chief of the Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should specially recognize those estimable citizens who have distinguished themselves in their communities, their vocations, and their organizations, putting their energies at the service of others; and

WHEREAS, Robert Glenn Officer of Sparta is one such exemplary person, who has been elected by his peers to serve as Most Excellent Great Chief of the Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States of America in recognition of his laudable service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Officer has been a member of the masonic fraternity for thirty-one years, having been raised in 1993 to Master Mason in Sparta Lodge No. 99, Free and Accepted Masons, where he still acts as chaplain; and

WHEREAS, recognized in many organizations for his outstanding qualities and facility for leadership, Mr. Officer was exalted in Mt. Olivet Chapter No. 87, Royal Arch Masons and is a Past High Priest, currently serving as treasurer; was greeted in Sparta Council No. 128, Cryptic Masons and is a Past Illustrious Master, currently serving as treasurer; was knighted in Cumberland Commandery No. 26 in Cookeville and is a Past Commander; and served the Tennessee Grand Commandery as Grand Sentinel; and

WHEREAS, in the Tennessee Grand Chapter, Mr. Officer served in several offices before being elected as the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in 2014, and he authored the private ceremony for the incoming Grand High Priest; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Officer is a member of numerous other masonic bodies: the Chattanooga Valley Scottish Rite, holding the title of 33° Inspector General Honorary; the Order

of Free Gardeners; Tennessee Forest No. 195, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; Cherokee York Rite College; St. Gregory Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine; Tennessee College Masonic Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Fœderatis; Allied Masonic Degrees; Masonic Order of Athelstan; Masonic Order of Pilgrim Preceptor; St. Thomas of Acon; and the Worshipful Society of Free Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plasters and Bricklayers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Officer is also a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias, where he is a past Grand Chancellor of Tennessee, holds the title of Knight of the Golden Spur, and currently serves as the Grand Treasurer for the Grand Lodge of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Officer is no stranger to national service, and he is the past Grand Prelate of the Sovereign Order of Knight Preceptors; and

WHEREAS, utilizing his influence to effect positive change, he was the co-founder of the Autism Assistance and Aid program and the Samuel Plemons Challenge for Autism; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his participation in fraternal organizations, Mr. Officer has served his community as a school counselor for his alma mater White County High School and as an adjunct faculty member at Motlow State Community College, where he teaches psychology; and

WHEREAS, learned and experienced, Mr. Officer received his Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, his Master of Arts in Educational Psychology, and his Education Specialist degree in Educational Psychology and Counselor Education from Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Officer has also employed his leadership skills to the betterment of his neighbors as a member of the Sparta Board of Mayor and Aldermen since 1998, and he is currently serving as Vice-Mayor; and

WHEREAS, he is the Chairman of the Sparta Higher Education Advisory Board and the College Advisory Partnership, as well as other community boards; and

WHEREAS, thoughtful of this world and the next, Mr. Officer is a member of Sparta First Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Officer has continued his family's commitment to public service and education, and his efforts at community enrichment are admirable; and

WHEREAS, Robert Glenn Officer is a model citizen and community servant; his commitment to his family, community, and fraternity epitomizes the spirit of the Volunteer State and thus, should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor Robert Glenn Officer for his outstanding community leadership, congratulate him on being named Most Excellent Great Chief of the Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States of America, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

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