

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 793

By Jones

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Legislative Librarian Eddie Weeks for twenty-seven devoted years with the Tennessee General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is the great fortune of the members of this General Assembly to count among our staff Mr. Thomas Edward "Eddie" Weeks, legislative librarian within the Office of Legal Services; and

WHEREAS, a native of Winfield, Alabama, Eddie Weeks holds both a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, with minors in English and Sociology, and a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, prior to coming on board with the Tennessee General Assembly, he served as manager of the Frayser Branch Library in Memphis and an employee of LINC (Library Information Center) at the Shelby County Public Library in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, as legislative librarian, Eddie Weeks provides professional reference service for the 132 members of the Tennessee General Assembly and their staff, ever willing to assist with their burning questions, no matter how obscure; he also aids in the creation and review of legislation, including bills, resolutions, amendments, and proclamations; and

WHEREAS, during his nearly three-decade career as legislative librarian, Mr. Weeks has been a capable steward of the volumes within the legislative library; he has created a variety of research and finding aids to assist in the retrieval of Private Acts and Public Acts of the General Assembly and updated and maintained approximately thirty sets of the Tennessee Code Annotated for the staff of the Office of Legal Services; and

WHEREAS, he has also attended national conferences and professional association meetings concerning items of interest to legislatures, libraries, and librarians, often presenting at

the National Conference of State Legislatures' summits on topics such as public access to legislative information, researching legislative history and intent, and authoritative informational resources in the age of social media; and

WHEREAS, a gifted orator for certain, Eddie Weeks has also applied his way with words and wealth of knowledge to the page, having published in the *Journal of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries* (Fall 2013) and written the lofty, definitive tome *A History of Tennessee Statutory Law: Compilations, Codifications, and Complications*, published by LexisNexis in 2021; and

WHEREAS, he has often been duly recognized for his invaluable service; among his many accolades are the 2006 Joint Legislative Employee of the Year award and the 2014 Legislative Staff Achievement Award, given at the National Conference of State Legislatures by the Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section, a body he served as chair from 2012 to 2013; and

WHEREAS, few possess such passion for and encyclopedic knowledge of the history of the State of Tennessee and its legislature as Mr. Weeks, and fewer still deliver it with such panache; he has long regaled interns and employees alike with fascinating stories of bygone legislative bodies during his Capitol tours, which are legendary and entice repeat participants; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Weeks is beloved among the members and staff of the legislature, who are always happy to find him in his eighth-floor library office, playing soothing classical music through his speakers, surrounded by homages to various feline friends and photographs of his wife of thirty years, Darla Brock; and

WHEREAS, it is our pleasure to recognize the inimitable Eddie Weeks, whose commitment to professional excellence, rhetorical flair, and this State is without equal; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Legislative Librarian Eddie Weeks for twenty-seven years of devoted service to the Tennessee General Assembly, extending our heartfelt gratitude for his singular tenure and our best wishes for every 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.