

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1345

By Hazlewood

A RESOLUTION to posthumously recognize and honor Doyle Cox for his honorable service as a member of the United States Army.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee have, throughout the years, been called upon to take up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind to honorably safeguard the freedoms and liberties guaranteed to all citizens of these United States and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, while the heroic deeds of Tennesseans have been extolled throughout the history of our State and nation, the distinguished military service of every proud Tennessean should be illuminated, shared, and properly honored; and

WHEREAS, one such individual was the late Doyle Cox, an esteemed veteran of the United States Army whose military career is most worthy of recognition and approbation; and

WHEREAS, born on February 25, 1929, in Crab Orchard, Mr. Cox grew up in poverty and joined the U.S. Army in 1950, soon thereafter showing exceptional ability as a marksman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox served during the Korean War, and his heroic deeds are noted in his file at the National Archive, which also states that he was twice wounded and both times refused medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, one recounting of his military exploits includes his involvement with a three-tank procession entering a small village; the lead tank was struck by enemy fire and severely damaged, and the enclosed soldiers began their escape from the vehicle, encountering heavy enemy fire as they did so; and

WHEREAS, Doyle Cox was advancing with his fellow infantrymen behind the second tank in the caravan, and without hesitation, he ran toward the lead tank and, one at a time, dragged five wounded soldiers back behind the second tank to take cover; and

WHEREAS, after honorably serving his country for five years, Mr. Cox concluded his military career in 1955, returning home and working several different jobs before becoming a truck driver, from which position he eventually retired; and

WHEREAS, for his distinguished military service, Doyle Cox was awarded five Bronze Stars (three with V attachment), a National Defense Medal, and a Certificate of Valor signed by the Secretary of Defense; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cox was wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and his memory and legacy of service should be specially recognized; 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 posthumously recognize and honor Doyle Cox for his valiant and devoted service to this State and our nation as a member of the United States Army.

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.