

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1379

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Tommy Harber upon being named 2024 Supplier of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we recognize those individuals whose vision, ambition, and work ethic are driving forces behind the success of local economies and the economy of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Tommy Harber, who was recently named 2024 Supplier of the Year by the Tennessee Grocers and Convenience Store Association, a most befitting honor that recognizes his important contributions to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the vice president of sales for Family Brands, LLC, Mr. Harber is a lifetime employee of Tennessee's food industry, having started in the business in 1982 at the age of thirteen as a stocker and bagger at Wilkinson's Cee Bee grocery store in Chapel Hill; and

WHEREAS, his nine years serving in food retail allowed him the opportunity to grow up in the food industry, preparing him well for his subsequent thirty-three years on the sales side; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Harber left the food retail industry in 1991 to work as a sales representative for Thorn Apple Valley meat company, where he served as senior accounts manager from 1995 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, from 1998 to 2001, Mr. Harber estimably served as accounts manager for Smithfield Packing, calling on large chains and independent grocers alike; and

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-three years, Tommy Harber has represented Tennessee-based Family Brands, LLC, moving through the roles of accounts manager and sales manager before assuming his current position as vice president of retail sales; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious career, Mr. Harber has been mentored by some of the giants of Tennessee's food industry, including John Edd Wampler and the late Danny Potter; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Harber's long and distinguished record of civic involvement includes serving as an assistant scout master of Boy Scout Troop 352 in Chapel Hill and as a member of the board of directors of the Tennessee Grocers and Convenience Store Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harber is a faithful member of Chapel Hill Church of Christ, which he has served as a deacon; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many successes, Tommy Harber has enjoyed the love and support of his wife of twenty-six years, Karla Harber, with whom he has raised two outstanding young men, Jonathan and Brandon; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Harber has devoted his career to providing superior service and improving the economic well-being of his fellow Tennesseans, and it is most fitting that he be recognized at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate Tommy Harber upon being named 2024 Supplier of the Year by the Tennessee Grocers and Convenience Store Association, extending our best wishes for his 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.