

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 285

By Tate

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Lee Ward upon being elevated to an Auxiliary Bishop within the Church of God in Christ.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those sterling individuals who, through their hard work, expertise, and dedication, have pieced together the enduring fabrics that comprise the grand tapestry of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lee Ward is one such outstanding citizen, who will be elevated to an Auxiliary Bishop within the Church of God in Christ; an inaugural banquet celebration will be held in his honor on May 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ward is an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who has worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens and his congregants in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ward is a surviving member of the historic Munford Point Marines, the first African-American members of the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, his time as a member of the Marine Corps included twenty-six years of service and tours of duty during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, for nine years, Dr. Ward served on the staff of the Commandant, whom he accompanied on meetings with several United States presidents; and

WHEREAS, he retired at the rank of master gunnery sergeant and was honored with the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor that a citizen can achieve; and

WHEREAS, due to the superior quality of his Christian service and the depth and sincerity of his faith, Dr. Ward has earned the respect of his flock and church leaders alike; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lee Ward's courage, boundless energy, and religious devotion are to be greatly admired, and it is fitting that this General Assembly pause to applaud this exceptional Christian servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Dr. Lee Ward upon being elevated to an Auxiliary Bishop within the Church of God in Christ, applaud his meritorious service to his community, and offer our thanks for his stalwart commitment to performing God's work with courage and conviction.

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