

**A resolution to honor Representative Gary Odom of Nashville, Tennessee, for meritorious service on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.**

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor members upon completion of their terms who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts have ensured proper attention to innumerable issues in fulfillment of the Commission's mission to serve as a forum for the discussion and resolution of intergovernmental problems, to provide high quality research support to state and local government officials in order to improve the overall quality of government in Tennessee, and to improve the effectiveness of the intergovernmental system to better serve the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Representative Gary Odom earned his Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement Services at East Tennessee State University and received a Master of Criminal Justice from Eastern Kentucky University, has served as executive director of the Tennessee Optometric Association and the Tennessee Association of Optometric Physicians for over thirty years, and is married to Rachel Odom, and is the father of two children, John Paul and Sarah Elizabeth; and

WHEREAS, Representative Odom has served his constituents with honor and dedication for many years in various capacities including as a member of the Metro Council of Nashville from 1983 - 1995 and as a special investigator for the Tennessee State Attorney General's Office; and

WHEREAS, Representative Odom has served his community as a member of the 95th through the 108th General Assemblies, Democratic Leader 105<sup>th</sup> and 106<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Representative Odom has been recognized for his leadership over the years as 1988 Legislator of the Year by the Arc of Tennessee, 1991 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association, 1993 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Conservation League, 1993 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Primary Care Association, 1993 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Physical Therapists Association, 1993 Legislator of the Year by the Environmental Action Fund, 1993 and 1994 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Nurses Association, 1994 and 1995 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Task Force Against Domestic Violence, 1995 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants, 1996 Legislator of the Year by the National Rural Health Association, 1996 Legislator of the Year by Tennessee State Employees, 1998 Tennessee Environmental Council's Outstanding Conservation Advocate Award, 1998 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Trial Lawyers, 1998 and 2003 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Rural Health Association, 1999 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Psychological Association, 2003 and 2006 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Chiropractic Association, 2004 Legislator of the Year by the Tennessee Assembly of Surgical Technologists and by the American Association of Surgical Technologists, 2005 Legislator of the Year by the Southern Council of Optometrists, Inc., 2006 Tennessee Chapter Public Official of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers, 2006 Legislative Victory Award by the Tennessee Association of Mental Health, 2012 Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce Friend of Business, 2014 Outstanding Legislative Leadership by the Tennessee Men's Health Network, Legislator of the Year by the Alliance for Native American Indian Rights, Legislator of the Year by the National Wildlife Federation, Statesman of the Year by the Tennessee Optometric Association; and was recipient of the Nashville Firefighter

Association Leadership Award and a certificate of appreciation by the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Representative Odom has, in the course of his career as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly, served as chair of the House Ethics Committee, the House Professional Occupations Subcommittee, the Davidson County Legislative Delegation, the House Environment Committee, the House Environment Subcommittee, and as a member of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee and Subcommittee, the House Commerce Committee, the House Health and Human Resources Committee, the House Government Operations Committee, the House Calendar and Rules Committee, and the TennCare Oversight Committee; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these leadership roles, Representative Odom has served with distinction on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations from January 2007 through October 2014 helping provide leadership and direction to the Commission's staff; now, therefore,

*BE IT RESOLVED* BY THE TENNESSEE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS that we hereby honor and commend Representative Odom for his valuable contributions to the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations for seven years and for his honorable and dedicated service to the good people of Davidson County, the city of Nashville, and this great state.

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Senator Mark Norris, Chairman