A resolution to honor Senator Douglas Henry 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 myriad 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;

WHEREAS, Senator Douglas Henry is a native Tennessean, born and raised in Nashville, who earned his Bachelor of Arts degree and Bachelor of Laws degree from Vanderbilt University and works as an attorney in private practice; and with his wife Loiette, proudly raised six wonderful children Emily, Kathryn, Lolly, Robert, Mary, and Douglas; and

WHEREAS, he joined the United States Army and nobly served his country for two and one-half years during World War II and has been a lifetime member of both the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as a member of Nashville Post 5 of the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, through his dedicated advocacy on behalf of public education; Tennessee’s children, women, and senior citizens; the preservation of Tennessee’s environmental and historical heritage, having received a lifetime achievement award
from the Tennessee Conservation Voters in 2014; his involvement in the Kiwanis Club, the Tennessee Historical Society, the Tennessee State Museum Foundation, the YMCA, and the Nashville Tennessee and American Bar Associations; and his responsible stewardship of the tax payer's money, Senator Henry has demonstrated unparalleled leadership in his community and in government; and

WHEREAS, as a House member of the 79th General Assembly in 1954 and as a Senate member beginning in 1970, ending at his retirement in 2014, Senator Henry has been a member of the 87th through the 108th General Assemblies; and as a life-long public servant and a source of knowledge and expertise in state government, Senator Henry has earned the respect of colleagues and constituents as voiced by Lieutenant Governor Ron Ramsey saying, "Senator Henry is one of the most honest, hardworking, genuine people I have ever met; he always votes his convictions, and he always stands by his principles; he is a true gentleman and one of Tennessee’s most loyal sons; his presence in the Senate will be missed;" and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the General Assembly, Senator Henry has made immeasurable contributions as a member of a diverse array of committees including Fiscal Review, Judiciary, General Welfare, Health and Human Resources, Ethics, Environment, Conservation and Tourism and has served the citizens of this great state in various leadership roles including Chair and Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance, Ways and Means and Chairman of the Southern Legislative Conference; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the above mentioned leadership roles, Senator Henry served with distinction on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental
Relations from 1981 through 2014, the longest serving member of the Commission; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TENNESSEE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS that we hereby honor and commend Senator Henry for his innumerable contributions throughout thirty-three years of service on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and for over four decades of honorable and dedicated service to the good people of this great state.

Senator Mark Norris, Chairman