

By: Senator L. Chesterfield
By: Representative Love

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE "BROADWAY JOE" BOOKER FOR HIS EFFORTS IN ENCOURAGING ARKANSANS TO RECEIVE THE CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19) VACCINE AND FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE "BROADWAY JOE" BOOKER FOR HIS EFFORTS IN ENCOURAGING ARKANSANS TO RECEIVE THE CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19) VACCINE AND FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, Mr. Joe Booker is a native of South Carolina but relocated to Arkansas, attended Arkansas State University, received his bachelor's degree at Arkansas Baptist College in African-American Community Leadership, and became an Arkansan; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Booker began his broadcasting career in the military in 1976 as an announcer in the Armed Forces Korean Network and continued to hone his skills in broadcasting after college graduation to become a leading radio personality in Central Arkansas, known to many as "Broadway Joe"; and

WHEREAS, Broadway Joe has had an illustrious career full of awards and leadership roles in the industry but has always made time to give back to the community through volunteer involvement with local organizations; and



WHEREAS, Broadway Joe is currently the Director of Programming at Cumulus Media-Little Rock, Program Director for KIPR Power 92.3FM, host of the Broadway Joe Talk Show, and host of the Broadway Joe Video Show, Little Rock's first urban music video program; and

WHEREAS, Broadway Joe has used this public platform to encourage individuals across the state to receive one (1) of the available coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) vaccines; and

WHEREAS, Governor Asa Hutchinson noted Broadway Joe's influence in a recent press release, saying "The vaccines are the most important tool in our fight against COVID...The vaccine is our big gun, and if people participate widely, the number of cases will decline...Some people are reluctant to take the vaccine, and I understand that. Members of the [B]lack community have historically distrusted vaccines, but [Black people] are disproportionately impacted by COVID, so it is all the more important they have the vaccine...Joe Booker, star of the Broadway Joe Morning Show, is encouraging his listeners to take the vaccine as well. He has made a public service announcement for the Arkansas Department of Health."; and

WHEREAS, the press release quoted Broadway Joe: "For me, getting the vaccine is the right choice because I love my family...I love my wife, my children. I would do anything to keep them all safe. Right now, the best thing I can do is to commit to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. For those of you who are unsure about getting the vaccine, I urge you to think about your loved ones. Many of you may have underlying health conditions or be at a higher risk of contracting the virus. I know keeping them safe is a high priority to you, just as it is to me."; and

WHEREAS, Broadway Joe has been known to say that family is the key to all of his success, and he and his wife Freddie have been married for over thirty (30) years and are proud parents and grandparents,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Senate recognize the efforts of Broadway Joe Booker in encouraging Arkansans to receive the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) vaccine and celebrate his contributions to the state and his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to Broadway Joe Booker by the Secretary of the Senate.