

House Resolution No. 2995

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who bring glory and honor to themselves and to this state through their courageous acts; and

Whereas, James Shanks has attained considerable distinction as a valued employee of Transport Distribution Company of Joplin, Missouri, which he serves as a long haul trucker; and

Whereas, on March 24, 2003, James Shanks witnessed the erratic driving of a fellow tractor-trailer operator who was subsequently involved in a one-vehicle accident on I-45 near Hutchins, Texas; and

Whereas, James Shanks immediately stopped to investigate the incident and found the involved driver, Larry Stewart, unconscious, not breathing, and with no pulse; and

Whereas, James Shanks, a Dallas County Sheriff's Deputy, and one other individual performed Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) on the accident victim until the arrival of professionally trained emergency responders from the Hutchins Fire Department; and

Whereas, by the time the accident victim had been transported by ambulance to a nearby hospital, he had a heartbeat and was attempting to breathe on his own; and

Whereas, James Shanks can rest assured that if not for his efforts, Larry Stewart would not have recovered from his medical emergency which led to the involvement of his tractor-trailer rig in a potentially disastrous accident on a major transportation artery north of Dallas; and

Whereas, it is certainly proper for the Missouri House of Representatives to add its words of praise and thanksgiving to those of the Hutchins Fire Department and Jeanette Stewart, wife of the man whose life was restored in large measure due to the exceptional efforts of James Shanks:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to commend the successful lifesaving efforts put forth by James Shanks on March 24, 2003, and to express to him this legislative body's most heartfelt appreciation and admiration for his willingness to selflessly intervene in a dangerous situation on behalf of a stranger; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of James Shanks.

Offered by _____
 Representative Bryan Stevenson
 District No. 128

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2995, adopted May 16, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker