

House Resolution 477

By: Representatives Tanner of the 9th and Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Bill Elliott for his amazing racing career and inviting him to be recognized by
2 the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Bill Elliott was born in Dawsonville, Georgia, on October 8, 1955; and

4 WHEREAS, in 1976, at the tender age of 20, Bill Elliott entered his first Winston Cup race
5 and launched a career that would span more than three decades; and

6 WHEREAS, known for his friendly manner and down-to-earth personality, this native
7 Georgian is a record 16 time winner of the National Motorsports Press Association's Most
8 Popular Driver award; and

9 WHEREAS, his victories in the Daytona 500, the Winston 500 at Talladega, and the
10 Southern 500 at Darlington earned him the first million dollar bonus in NASCAR history and
11 the nickname "Million Dollar Bill"; and

12 WHEREAS, he sat on the pole at Talladega at more than 212 miles per hour on April 30,
13 1987; and

14 WHEREAS, after finishing second in the series standings twice, he claimed the Cup series
15 championship in 1988 while driving for Michigan industrialist Harry Melling; and

16 WHEREAS, he was the first Winston Cup driver to appear on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*,
17 and in 2006, Harper Entertainment published his book, *Awesome Bill from Dawsonville*; and

18 WHEREAS, he started his own team in 1995, and in 2000, he celebrated the grand occasion
19 of his 25th anniversary in the NASCAR Winston Cup Series; and

20 WHEREAS, he captured the checkered flag twice in a row in 2002 when he won both the
21 Pennsylvania 500 and the Brickyard 500; and

22 WHEREAS, he created the Bill Elliott Driver Development program, which mentors young
23 drivers through the highs and lows of racing life, as a way to pay forward the years of
24 support, guidance, and hard work from family, friends, and fans that catapulted him to
25 stardom in NASCAR's top series; and

26 WHEREAS, he was inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame in January, 2015; and

27 WHEREAS, Bill Elliott has participated in close to 750 races, achieved 44 wins, collected
28 55 career poles, and amassed winnings of \$73 million, yet he has remained a humble man
29 and a positive role model throughout his vast successes, making it fitting and proper to call
30 him a champion.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body commend Bill Elliott for his outstanding racing career, wish him
33 many more years of success and happiness, and invite him to be recognized by the House of
34 Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House of
35 Representatives.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Bill
38 Elliott.