

Law to Ralph Cole, Jr. means these things, and many more. Ralph has lived the law as a Legislator, and has been a fountain of wisdom to this legislative body since 1955, he having served in the 101st General Assembly and continuously until this 107th General Assembly.

Ralph comes to us from Findlay, Ohio, now representing the 5th House District composed of Putnam, Hancock and Hardin counties.

Ralph comes by his legislative career through an honest heritage in that his father, Ralph Cole, Sr., served before him in the 74th and 75th General Assemblies.

Ralph has done an outstanding job as a member and as a chairman of very important committees of this House. He was the Reference Chairman for a number of sessions and did a great job in that capacity, as he has done this session as Chairman of the very hard-working State Government Committee.

Ralph now goes from us in this Legislative body to live the law within the judiciary, fulfilling the ambition of his legal profession.

There are those among us who walk across the human scene that add light rather than darkness and certainly Ralph Cole, Jr. has been one in this category.

Ralph has shed his light in these Legislative halls, and it is my hope and expectation that Ralph, in like manner will shed an equal amount of light within the judicial chambers.

Mr. Speaker, I very reluctantly and with great regret move to accept the resignation of Mr. Ralph Cole, Jr. from the Ohio House of Representatives.

Remarks by Mr. Thorpe:

Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House:

When I first came to the House of Representatives in 1961, I talked with one of my local public officials about who I could turn to for advice in the legislature. He suggested to me the names of two legislators, namely Gail Porterfield who is presently Tax Commissioner of Ohio, and Ralph Cole. Over the years, I have conferred with Ralph Cole on many occasions and I have never found him to be wanting in good, sound advice. Although I have not voted with him 100% of the time, his arguments and reasonings on various issues facing the legislature have always been good.

If there is one thing that makes serving in the legislature worthwhile, it is the companionships and friendships that one makes with some of the most outstanding men in Ohio, and included among these Ralph Cole must stand at the top of the list.

When I heard of the appointment of Ralph Cole to the Court of Appeals the thought crossed my mind that this had to be the most outstanding appointment that the present Governor of Ohio has made. There is no person in or out of the legislature more deserving of this appointment than Representative Ralph Cole.