

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 715

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to encourage Tennessee schools to have students recite the first official salute to the Tennessee flag.

WHEREAS, the flag of the State of Tennessee was designed by LeRoy Reeves of the Third Regiment, Tennessee Infantry; and

WHEREAS, this flag was adopted as the official flag of the State of Tennessee by the General Assembly on April 17, 1905; and

WHEREAS, our flag (a design of three white stars representing the three grand divisions of the state bound together by the endless circle on a field of blue, symbolizing an insoluble trinity, all placed on a solid field of crimson) waves proudly as the most recognizable symbol of our state; and

WHEREAS, Lucy Steel Harrison, State Regent of The Tennessee Society, Daughters of the American Revolution from 1980-1983, composed a stirring salute to the Tennessee flag, which was subsequently designated "the official salute to the flag of Tennessee" by Senate Joint Resolution No. 63 of the 92nd General Assembly adopted on March 5, 1981; and

WHEREAS, the salute written by Lucy Steele Harrison is as follows:

“Three white stars on a field of blue
God keep them strong and ever true
It is with pride and love that we
Salute the Flag of Tennessee.”

This first official salute, as codified in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-1-329, aptly shows respect for and honors the flag of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, because of the enduring patriotism of such stalwart Tennesseans like Mr. Reeves and Mrs. Harrison, this General Assembly should promote an appropriate observance of the leading symbol of our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby encourage all Tennessee schools to have their students recite the first official salute to the Tennessee flag on a daily basis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.