



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 842

SENATE BILL NO. 2006

By Oliver, Yarbro

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2230

By Love, Freeman, Clemmons, Parkinson, Dixie, McKenzie, Hill, Powell, Shaw

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 15, Chapter 2 and Title 49, relative to the Reverend Kelly Miller Smith, Sr. Week of Service.

WHEREAS, the Reverend Kelly Miller Smith, Sr., born October 28, 1920, was a preacher, author, and prominent activist in the Civil Rights Movement, who arrived in Nashville in 1951 and served for decades as the pastor of First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith and twelve other African Americans challenged segregation in Nashville's public schools through a federal lawsuit filed in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith served as the president of the Nashville chapter of the NAACP, helped establish the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and founded the Nashville Christian Leadership Council, which worked to nonviolently desegregate lunch counters, hotels, and theaters; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith opened the doors of First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill for workshops led by Reverend James M. Lawson that trained Nashville students such as John Lewis, Diane Nash, C.T. Vivian, and Bernard Lafayette about nonviolent protest; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith served as an assistant dean of the Vanderbilt University Divinity School from 1969 until his death in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith was a member of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha at Morehouse College; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith was a member of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity; and was a Freemason; and

WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper that we honor Reverend Smith by following his example of tireless community service; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 15, Chapter 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

The calendar week that includes October 28 is observed as the Reverend Kelly Miller Smith, Sr. Week of Service. Residents of this state are encouraged to perform works of community service during the week.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

SENATE BILL NO. 2006

PASSED: April 15, 2024



RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 15th day of May 2024



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR