

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 61

By Todd

A RESOLUTION to honor Union University in Jackson on the occasion of its bicentennial celebration.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should recognize and honor a university that has faithfully served Tennesseans for 200 years; and

WHEREAS, Union University in Jackson began as Jackson Male Academy on February 3, 1823; and

WHEREAS, that academy later became the preparatory department for West Tennessee College; and

WHEREAS, Baptists in Middle Tennessee launched Union University in Murfreesboro, with an academy opening in 1841 and college-level classes beginning six years later; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessean Baptist Convention opened Southwestern Baptist University, which assumed ownership of West Tennessee College in 1874; and

WHEREAS, Southwestern Baptist University's trustees voted in 1907 to change the institution's name to Union University in honor of the defunct Murfreesboro school; and

WHEREAS, Union merged with Hall-Moody Junior College in Martin in 1927; and

WHEREAS, for 200 years, Union University has provided students with an excellent, Christ-centered education; and

WHEREAS, Union is celebrating its bicentennial during the 2022-2023 academic year; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3,000 students are studying this year on one of Union's campuses in Jackson, Germantown, Hendersonville, or Memphis; and

WHEREAS, nine academic units (College of Arts and Sciences, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, McAfee School of Business, College of Education, School of Theology and

Missions, College of Pharmacy, School of Social Work, School of Adult and Professional Studies, and Memphis College of Urban Theological Studies) are preparing students to faithfully and courageously live out their callings; and

WHEREAS, Union's mission is to provide Christ-centered education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society; and

WHEREAS, the university pursues that mission according to its core values of excellence-driven, Christ-centered, people-focused, and future-directed education; and

WHEREAS, over 20,000 alumni serve faithfully as citizens across the great State of Tennessee and around the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Union University for this significant milestone and for its faithfulness to its mission over the past 200 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we recognize and thank the trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, and friends of Union University who have played a role in making Union one of Tennessee's leading private educational institutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation