

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 72

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Bush Brothers & Company on the occasion of the 105th anniversary of its founding.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to honor those organizations whose stated goals advance the most noble precepts of human endeavor and whose history of service in pursuing these goals has infinitely benefitted the well-being of communities, the State of Tennessee, and our citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such venerable organization that has an outstanding legacy of corporate citizenship and civic engagement in Tennessee is Bush Brothers & Company, an East Tennessee economic treasure which has become the nation's best-loved brand in beans. This company has been continuously in business in Tennessee for the past 105 years; and

WHEREAS, founded by Andrew Jackson "A.J." Bush as a family partnership with his elder sons, Fred and Claude, in Chestnut Hill, in 1908, Bush Brothers & Company was incorporated by the State of Tennessee in 1922; a century later, the family and the governing board are well positioned to confer leadership to the fifth generation of the Bush family; and

WHEREAS, A.J. Bush was an extraordinary man who was thrifty and comfortable with a meager lifestyle, as his deepest desires were for the future for his children and also for his community. He planned for a future with productive employment opportunities in communities where commerce could thrive and social institutions could develop to meet health, education, and municipal governance needs of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, it has been a long journey for the small, home-grown enterprise which began under the shadow of English Mountain where the roads to Newport, Sevierville, and Dandridge intersect, and its rich, colorful, one-hundred-year-plus history tells stories of both

boom and bust, but especially of transformation, a transformation which brought the company into another century of business; and

WHEREAS, more than a corporate entity, Bush Brothers & Company is truly a community of companions which encompasses generations and, with great pride, today's corporate leaders know their beloved patriarch would be pleased his values continue as the driving force of his corporate offspring; and

WHEREAS, the measure of quality established by A. J. Bush and upheld by each and every successor throughout the past and into this the present has become and remains the standard of industry excellence, and this legislative body is exceedingly proud to extol the goodness of one of Tennessee's finest corporate citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Bush Brothers & Company on the occasion of its 105th anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we honor the memory of A. J. Bush and each of his prodigies, as each and every one has contributed to the success of Bush Brothers & Company.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we send best wishes for success in every future endeavor to Bush Brothers & Company Chairman Jim Ethier and President and Chief Executive Officer Tom Ferriter.

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