

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 118

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Raymond and Bettye Bennett on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on February 3, 1963, Raymond and Bettye Bennett were joined in holy matrimony at First Baptist Church of Donelson in Nashville, and since that fateful day this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Raymond and Bettye met in Nashville; Raymond was working at Sears and serving in the Tennessee National Guard, and Bettye was working at the credit department in Sears and attending a business college; and

WHEREAS, Bettye left Sears because it was a company policy that employees could not date, and she and Raymond were married within fifteen months; and

WHEREAS, Bettye eventually owned a floral shop and Raymond opened a filling station that offered full service, fishing supplies, and a grocery store with a deli; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have been highly respected citizens of their community for many years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Raymond and Bettye Bennett are active and devout members of First Baptist Church of Lenoir City, which they have served faithfully for nearly forty years; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced four children, Rusty (Darlene) Bennett, Chris (Jackie) Bennett, Tina Bennett (Steve) Wright, and Ted (Tamara) Bennett; and eight grandchildren, Cody, Casey, and Lily Bennett; Sara, William, and Tyler Wright; and Tathan and Taelor Bennett; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Bennetts' are truly the foundation upon which our society is built and serve as a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; 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 hereby honor and congratulate Raymond and Bettye Bennett on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

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