

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 184

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to commemorate Green Apple Day of Service in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of our children is of utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, green schools are schools that create a healthy environment that is conducive to learning while saving energy, resources, and money; and

WHEREAS, green schools create an environment that supports student learning through improvements in site selection, day-lighting, indoor air quality, thermal comfort, acoustics, and classroom design, all of which have an impact on a child's ability to learn and a teacher's ability to teach; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of superior air quality, a key emphasis of green schools, have been linked to lower asthma rates, fewer allergies, reduced absenteeism, and increased teacher retention rates; and

WHEREAS, green schools consume an average of thirty to fifty percent less energy compared to conventional schools, according to the U.S. Green Buildings Council; and

WHEREAS, green schools cost less to operate, utilize durable materials, and greatly reduce water and energy use, which generates significant financial savings; and

WHEREAS, green schools provide an educational experience that transcends the classroom by creating a host of opportunities for curriculum innovation and hands-on, project-based learning in which the building itself becomes an interactive teaching tool; and

WHEREAS, volunteer engagement and community partnerships can lead to positive change for our local schools; and

WHEREAS, the Green Apple Day of Service, presented by the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council, has provided a focal point for communities to make our schools healthier, more sustainable places to learn; and

WHEREAS, in its first year, more than 1,250 communities hosted Green Apple Day of Service projects, spanning all fifty states and forty-nine countries, to make our schools healthier, more sustainable places to learn; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council has collaborated with partners from the public, private, and non-profit sectors to share community project ideas and step-by-step instructions for organizing school service projects, all available for free at mygreenapple.org; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2013, the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Building Council will organize the second Green Apple Day of Service; for one day, green-school advocates from across the country and around the world, including USGBC Chapters, and Students, international green building councils, elected officials, teachers, parents, students, and more, will come together in support of green schools by taking real action in their communities because where we learn matters; 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 join with schools across Tennessee and this great nation as they celebrate Green Apple Day of Service on Saturday, September 28, 2013, as an action to engage their communities in a shared goal of ensuring healthy, safe, and efficient places for all our students to learn.