

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 575

By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the 100th graduating class of Maryville High School.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those institutions of learning that are dedicated to providing quality education to every student in their community; and

WHEREAS, Maryville High School is one such exemplary institution that has rendered sterling service to the children of the Maryville community for more than a century and is graduating its 100th class of students in 2019; and

WHEREAS, in 1918, Maryville High School joined the national trend and moved from a one-year curriculum to a four-year curriculum, culminating with its first graduating class in 1919, composed of thirteen students, eleven girls and two boys, taught by four teachers, three female and one male; and

WHEREAS, Maryville High School not only enjoyed its first graduating class in 1919, it was also accepted into the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges and published its first school yearbook, *Emerald Glow*, that same year; and

WHEREAS, the 1920s saw the appointment of Maryville's first school principal, Belle Pickens, in 1921, and the school's relocation to the Maryville Polytechnic Building; and

WHEREAS, in 1930, the Maryville High School yearbook was first published as *The Appalachian*; the football team was called the "Crimson Whirlwind," and the girls' basketball team was known as the "Crimsonettes"; and

WHEREAS, construction of a new building, and the current location of Maryville High School, began in 1938 and was completed in 1939, during which timeframe the school also adopted a new team name, the Red Rebels; and

WHEREAS, the Maryville community's continuing growth through the 1960s resulted in the addition of a science wing and gymnasium in 1961 and the construction of a band building in 1966; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, four African-American students bravely led the way as Maryville High School was integrated, with Constance Hooper becoming the first African-American student to be inducted into the Maryville High School Chapter of the National Honor Society in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Maryville High School underwent a complete renovation in the 1980s, with the addition of guidance offices, an administration suite, and the library annex; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the expansion of Maryville High School's complex continued with the addition of a Senior Wing, a fieldhouse, an orchestra room, and a new gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, 100 years since the graduation of its first class, Maryville High School is very proud of the achievements of the Class of 2019, which is composed of 407 members; the class has the fourth-highest ACT scores in the State of Tennessee and includes eight National Merit finalists and nine National Merit Commended students; and

WHEREAS, the members of Maryville's Class of 2019 have been offered scholarships totaling over \$7 million, with sixty-one percent of the class planning to matriculate to a four-year college, twenty-eight percent set to enroll in a two-year college, three percent attending a technical school, two percent enlisting in the armed forces, and four percent entering the work force; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we specially recognize and celebrate this milestone achievement in the history of one of the top high schools in the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first graduating class of Maryville High School, honor its administration, faculty, staff, and students, both past and

present, for their commitment to quality education, and extend our best wishes for every future success.

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