

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 817

By Shaw

A RESOLUTION to adopt "So I'll Just Shine in Tennessee" ("I'm a [any town], Tennessee Nugget") as an official state song.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the General Assembly has adopted certain songs as official state songs; and

WHEREAS, over Tennessee's history seven songs have been honored as official state songs: My Homeland, Tennessee (1925); When It's Iris Time in Tennessee (1935); My Tennessee (1955); Tennessee Waltz (1965); Rocky Top (1982); Tennessee (1992); and, The Pride of Tennessee (1996); and

WHEREAS, "So I'll Just Shine in Tennessee" ("I'm a [any town], Tennessee Nugget") by Brenda Monroe-Moses and Mildred Lewis Atkins is a worthy song to be included in such esteemed company; and

WHEREAS, "So I'll Just Shine in Tennessee" is a musical portrait of the great pride and passion that Tennesseans feel for their home state's history and heritage; and

WHEREAS, the composers of this song exhibit a musicality seldom achieved and offer sublime lyrics that may be interchanged to represent any town in Tennessee (by substituting your hometown for "Jackson" in the lyrics below);

WHEREAS, this lasting, uplifting tribute to the citizens of the Volunteer State reads as follows:

Chorus: I'm a Jackson, Tennessee Nugget,
Worth my weight in gold,
The kind of wealth you'll find in me,

Can't be bought or sold,
It's perfect, twenty-four karat,
More precious than bouil-lon,
And it's yours for the takin',
Tennessee Love can be your own!

So let the dust fly in Phoe-nix,
Let it rain in Mi-am-mee,
Let snow fall in Min-na-nap-lus,
Let it sleet in Mil-wau-kee,
Hear winds wail 'round Chi-ca-go,
See sunshine in Wa-kee-kee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee.

(Chorus)

So let earth shake in San Fran-cis-co,
Time stand still in Kan-ka-kee,
Let cars flash at In-dee-nap-lus,
'N paint your face in New Or-leans,
Show me more about St. Lou-is,
But right here is where I'll be,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee.

(Chorus)

So let the Cowboys run in Dal-las,
Let the cameras roll in L.A.,
Crown a queen in At-lan-tic Ci-ty,
Let the Packers rush for Green Bay,
Let Globetrotters leap for Har-lem,
I'll just watch 'em on my tee-vee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
 So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
 So I'll just shine in Tennessee.

(Chorus)

So let the Dukes escape from Haz-zard,
Let the motors hum in Dee-troit,
Let mag-nol-ias bloom in Bi-lux-ee,
Let the corn stalks rise in Bee-loit,
Let bright lights show up Las Vegas,
I'll show off love's light in me,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
I'll just have to shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
I'll just have to shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson . . . ,
The only place for ME-E-E-E-E-E-E!

(Optional Special Ending)

Honey, my roots run deep in Knoxville,
 So I'll just shine in Tennessee,

Honey, my roots run deep in Dickson,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Kingsport,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Somerville,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Milan,
So I'll just shine in Tennessee,
Honey, my roots run deep in Jackson,
The only place for ME-E-E-E-E-E-E-E!

;and

WHEREAS, the songwriters, Brenda Monroe-Moses and Mildred Lewis Atkins, are faithful Tennesseans and are clearly proud of our shared Tennessee heritage; and

WHEREAS, their song, "So I'll Just Shine in Tennessee" is clearly deserving of the special honor of being designated an official song of the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that "So I'll Just Shine in Tennessee" ("I'm a [any town], Tennessee Nugget") by Brenda Monroe-Moses and Mildred Lewis Atkins is hereby adopted as an official song of the state of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chief clerk of the house mail presentation copies of this resolution on behalf of the General Assembly to each elementary and secondary school in the state of Tennessee with the final clause omitted from such copies.