

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 845

By Carr

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Middle Tennessee State University upon the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly honor those extraordinary institutions of higher learning that promote education in a manner that has garnered universal acclaim; and

WHEREAS, Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), a Tennessee Board of Regents institution, is one of the oldest and most respected public universities in the State of Tennessee and is celebrating its centennial during the 2011-2012 academic year; and

WHEREAS, MTSU, on September 11, 1911, was founded as one of the state's three two-year normal schools and remains a leader in teacher training for the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, MTSU became a four-year state teachers college in 1925; in 1943, it became Middle Tennessee State College; its graduate school was established in 1950; and, in 1965, it became Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, MTSU is a destination school, the number one choice of undergraduates in the State of Tennessee, and it has some of the highest entrance requirements of any public university in the state; and

WHEREAS, it is also the number one choice of transfer students, the number one choice of Tennessee veterans, and the number one choice for students enrolling in summer classes; and

WHEREAS, the University has grown from a campus of 100 acres with 125 students and a nineteen-member faculty into an academic community of more than 500 acres on its

Murfreesboro main campus, and more than 500 acres on its agricultural and aviation facilities, which serve more than 26,000 students with more than 900 faculty members; and

WHEREAS, MTSU, a comprehensive university, offers more than 140 undergraduate programs in its nine colleges: Basic and Applied Sciences, Business, Education, Behavioral and Health Sciences, University Honors, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication, the University College, and the College of Graduate Studies, which oversees more than fifty-five programs, including doctoral studies; and

WHEREAS, MTSU provides more graduates who make the midstate home, contribute to the local economy, pay taxes, raise their families here, and help make this region a great place to live, with seventy-eight percent of the school's alumni living in Tennessee, sixty percent of whom live within an hour's drive of Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, annually, MTSU generates \$896 million in business revenue in the Nashville metropolitan area and is responsible for \$396 million in Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, MTSU, as a member of the Sun Belt Conference, competes at the highest level in seventeen intercollegiate sports; many Blue Raiders have gone on to compete successfully in the professional ranks and the Olympics; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the last century, MTSU has positioned itself as a premiere institution for higher learning by offering an unprecedented and unparalleled education to thousands of students who, in turn, have improved their communities, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, the education of every Tennessean is of paramount importance, and the people of this state are fortunate indeed to be served by the dedicated faculty, staff, and students of Middle Tennessee State University; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Middle Tennessee State University for 100 years of dedicated service to the State of Tennessee. We commend its outstanding faculty and staff for their ongoing commitment to ensure the education of their fellow citizens and

extend our best wishes for every continued success as an academic institution of the highest order.

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