

HOUSE RESOLUTION 79

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Observance Lodge #686 on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those organizations that have reached a milestone in their illustrious history; and

WHEREAS, Observance Lodge #686, officially chartered February 28, 1917, is one such noteworthy organization that has a long-standing record of meritorious public service; and

WHEREAS, in 1915, a group of distinguished gentlemen met with the intent of opening a new Masonic lodge in Nashville, which they would call Observance Lodge, a reference to its objective to promote traditional Masonic values; and

WHEREAS, the forty-three founding members were a mix of both established and newly minted Masons, and they had their first official meeting on January 1, 1916. The Grand Master of the State of Tennessee formally accepted their petition on February 10, 1916, and Observance Lodge began its official business; and

WHEREAS, one year later, the Grand Master officially granted charter to this new Masonic establishment on February 28, 1917, and it was officially designated as Observance Lodge #686; and

WHEREAS, in its early years, Observance Lodge #686 had no home to call its own and shared space with Cumberland Lodge #283. As membership continued to grow, an arrangement was made with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Nashville in 1926, and Observance Lodge #686 moved into the Scottish Rite Valley Cathedral in the city of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, in 1937, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee purchased the building and solidified Observance Lodge #686's home on Broadway; since then, the Masons of this esteemed lodge have met on the third Thursday of every month; and

WHEREAS, many of the Masons in Observance Lodge #686 have distinguished themselves as men of stature and integrity in our great State; and

WHEREAS, the Observance Masons have further assisted the youth of our State through the inspirational leadership they provide in their community; and

WHEREAS, it is for the efforts of the Observance Lodge #686 that the members of this legislative body are most thankful; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby congratulate Observance Lodge #686 on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, and we wish its members continued success in all of their future endeavors.

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