

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 137

By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the dedicated staff and volunteers of the Nashville Rescue Mission on the occasion of its fifty-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those invaluable charitable organizations that have contributed so much to the betterment of their communities and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Rescue Mission is one such estimable organization, and on March 16, 2009, its staff, its many volunteers, and all those who have been touched by its efforts will celebrate the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Mission; and

WHEREAS, the Nashville Rescue Mission was founded in 1954 as a storefront ministry devoted to serving the homeless men, women, and children of Tennessee's capitol; and

WHEREAS, the Mission is a non-profit, faith-based organization that provides the necessities of life to homeless people seven days a week, 365 days a year; it serves as an overnight shelter for those without a warm bed and also offers three meals a day to those in need of sustenance; and

WHEREAS, 580,571 meals were served in 2008, and 242,372 nights of safe shelter were provided; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing those life necessities, the Nashville Rescue Mission also seeks to lift its clients up and out of homelessness and poverty; its life-recovery programs help graduates find jobs and stable housing; and

WHEREAS, 858 men and women enrolled in the Mission's life-recovery programs in 2008, and the Mission provided 62,256 hours of education and training, with eleven people earning their graduate equivalency diplomas; and

WHEREAS, legions of volunteers have chosen to serve their community through the Nashville Rescue Mission; in 2008 alone, 14,257 individuals volunteered at the Mission, providing meals and medical care, offering to teach and tutor in the life-recovery programs, and extending a helping hand whenever one was needed; and

WHEREAS, for fifty-five years, the Nashville Rescue Mission has provided humanitarian and spiritual service to the homeless and needy of Nashville and the Middle Tennessee area; these efforts have helped countless Tennesseans return to economic independence, find a renewed sense of self-worth, and heal their spirits; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize the Nashville Rescue Mission on the occasion of its fifty-fifth anniversary, thank its dedicated staff and volunteers for the outstanding service they have rendered to the people of Nashville and the Middle Tennessee area, and wish them every success in 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.