

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 597

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor Leadership Knoxville for its dedication towards creating a better community in Greater Knoxville.

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville was inspired by a suggestion from then First Lady Honey Alexander to James A. Haslam II, and research began with the assistance of Nelson Andrews and Governor Lamar Alexander; and

WHEREAS, a steering committee was formed in 1984 which included James A. Haslam II as chairman, Wayne W. Adams, Darrell D. Akins, William E. Arant, Dr. Pat G. Ball, Donna Cobble, Ann Cooper, Dale Keasling, Wayne Murdock, and William B. Sansom; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville was formed by a partnership between the Greater Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, the Junior League of Knoxville, and the United Way of Greater Knoxville, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, its original purpose was to strengthen knowledge and understanding of the community among current and emerging leaders and to prepare these leaders for future challenges. The original objectives were included as a basis for challenging and motivating participants to become more involved in community affairs; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville's first director was Bonnie G. Carpenter in 1985; Jeannie Dulaney served from 1985 to 2009 and Tammy White has led the organization since 2009; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville has been faithfully served by distinguished Board Chairs James A. Haslam II, Sam Furrow, Larry Martin, Raja Jubran, Mintha Roach, Sharon Miller Pryse, Bruce Hartmann, Tim Young, and chair elect Jimmy Cheek; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville has five dedicated graduates who have been named honorary lifetime members: James A. Haslam II, Williams E. “Bill” Arant, Donna Cobble, William “Bill” Sansom, and Dale Keasling; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Leadership Knoxville implemented INTRO Knoxville, a program for new executives and emerging leaders in the community; running twice a year, the program provides a six-week condensed overview of community history, current events, and key area players; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville offers facilitation services to area entities including government groups, nonprofit boards, religious groups, civic committees and commissions, and administrative staffs in the greater Knoxville area. Emphasis is placed on achieving a common vision and then using that vision as a means for strategic and action planning; and

WHEREAS, Leadership Knoxville has graduated over 1,304 individuals and has played a role in inspiring and encouraging class members to become engaged in the community; today it counts among its many esteemed graduates the Honorable Bill Haslam, Governor of Tennessee, and Crissy Haslam, First Lady of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the vision of Leadership Knoxville is simply stated: “Every Leader – A servant Leader”; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Leadership Knoxville is: “We build a stronger Knoxville by developing people and groups, leading to a greater community”; and

WHEREAS, the core values of Leadership Knoxville are: Service, Integrity, Excellence, Diversity/Inclusiveness, and Accountability; and

WHEREAS, as a highly regarded flagship program, Leadership Knoxville brings together forty-five to fifty leaders from around the region for a ten-month, intensive study of the community, its laudable history, its myriad opportunities, and its rising challenges; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby commend the members of Leadership Knoxville for their praiseworthy commitment to the people of greater Knoxville and this State and thank them for striving to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens.

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