

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 622

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION relative to 2014 National Tourism Week.

WHEREAS, leisure travel accounts for more than three-quarters of all trips taken in the United States and spurs countless benefits to travelers' creativity, cultural awareness, education, happiness, productivity, relationships, and wellness; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee saw a record-setting 92 million person-stays in 2012, representing a 5.9% increase over 2011; and

WHEREAS, tourism marketing expenditures enhance the state's economic vitality through job creation, increased tax revenue, and new investments, with the goal of more visitors, staying longer, and spending more; and

WHEREAS, during 2012, traveler spending in Tennessee increased 5.2% over the previous year, generating \$16.2 billion in direct economic impact, \$3.3 billion in payroll, 146,200 jobs for Tennessee residents, and a total of 1.2 billion in tax revenues for state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, a major portion of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, including the scenic Cades Cove area, is located within Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is home to Dollywood, Bristol Motor Speedway, the Grand Ole Opry, Elvis Presley's Graceland, The National Civil Rights Museum, Shiloh National Battlefield, the Discover Tennessee Trails & Byways, the Tennessee Civil War Trail, and many other tourist attractions from one end of the state to the other. Tennessee also contains the home sites of President Andrew Jackson, President James K. Polk, and President Andrew Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee continues to take visionary steps to become a global tourism destination, while preserving its rich history, arts and cultural heritage, and magnificent scenic beauty; 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 the week of May 3-11, 2014, be known as "National Tourism Week" in Tennessee, and all citizens are urged to join in this special observance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that May 7, 2014, be known as "Tennessee Tourism Day," in conjunction with National Tourism Day, and be celebrated with appropriate events and commemorations in communities, counties, and municipalities across this great state.

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