

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 687

By Black

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Raymond and Jane Knowles on the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, Raymond Earl Knowles and Delma Jane Spurlock were joined in holy matrimony on January 16, 1960, and since that fateful day this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Knowles have been highly respected citizens of their community for many years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, the son of Claude Raymond Knowles and Zelma Viola Fox Knowles, Raymond Knowles was born on October 30, 1937, in White Plains, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Jane Knowles was born in Reinhardt, Texas, on April 27, 1942, and is the daughter of Elbert Forest Spurlock, Jr., and Edna Frances Nehrmeyer Spurlock; and

WHEREAS, the couple met when Raymond Knowles, who was employed by the Woolworth Corporation as an assistant manager, was transferred to a store in Mesquite, Texas, where Jane Knowles was working as a cashier; and

WHEREAS, public-spirited citizens of the highest order, Mr. and Mrs. Knowles have endeavored to serve their fellow citizens in numerous capacities; they have provided jobs for dozens of Tennesseans through their successful businesses and are renowned as active leaders in both their church and their community; and

WHEREAS, they have also volunteered their time and talents as election workers, and Mr. Knowles has recently become Robertson County Election Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, Raymond and Jane Knowles are most appreciative of the love, companionship, and support they share with their three children: Shari Gayle Knowles Wood, Craig Raymond Knowles, and Stephen Earl Knowles, and they are the proud grandparents of Emily Renae Wood, Jacob Neal Wood, Zachary Forest Knowles, Grace Nicole Knowles, Stephanie Grace Knowles, and Maxwell Issac Knowles; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Knowleses' truly represent the best and brightest of our society, as they remind us of the intrinsic value of continuity and commitment in this ever changing world; 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 join with the family and friends of Raymond and Jane Knowles in celebrating this exemplary couple's fiftieth wedding anniversary and extend to Mr. and Mrs. Knowles our best wishes for every continued success and happiness in the years to come.

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