

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 723

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Wilsie S. Bishop on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilsie S. Bishop is one such estimable person who has served with distinction since May 13, 2019, as Senior Vice President for Academics and Interim Provost for East Tennessee State University (ETSU); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bishop recently announced that she will be taking her much-deserved retirement after a distinguished forty-three-year career at East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, East Tennessee State University hired Dr. Wilsie Bishop to serve as a temporary faculty member in the College of Nursing; she quickly earned tenure and rose through the ranks to administration leadership, playing a pivotal role in the creation and designation of the Academic Health Sciences Center; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, she oversaw the creation of ETSU Health, which unified the school's educational, clinical, and research pursuits in its five health sciences colleges; and

WHEREAS, during her illustrious career at East Tennessee State University, Dr. Bishop has served as Vice President for Health Affairs, Vice President for Administration and Chief Operating Officer, Dean of the College of Clinical and Rehabilitative Health Sciences, Associate Vice President for Health Affairs, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Interim Chair of the Department of Baccalaureate Degree Nursing; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bishop received her Doctor of Public Administration degree from the University of Southern California, from which she also earned a Master of Public Administration and a Master of Education; she holds a Master of Nursing degree and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Virginia Commonwealth University; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Dr. Wilsie Bishop is a member of the Tennessee Women's Hall of Fame and has received the James Rogers Distinguished Service Award, the Meritorious Service Award, and the Demetria Gibbs Outstanding Chair Award from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; and

WHEREAS, she is a former member of the board of the Association of Academic Health Centers and a current member of the Public Health Sub-Committee of the Defense Health Board, which reports to the Assistant Secretary for Health in the U.S. Department of Defense; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilsie Bishop exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Dr. Wilsie Bishop has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues, her students, and the people of the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Wilsie S. Bishop our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.