

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 880

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Tennessee State University Aristocrat of Bands on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary and recent performance at the 133rd Tournament of Roses Parade.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pride in the accomplishments of our college students who excel in extracurricular activities in addition to academics; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reginald McDonald, Director, and the members of the Tennessee State University Aristocrat of Bands (AOB) observed "75 Years of Excellence" last year and capped off the year-long celebration by performing in the world-famous 133rd Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the AOB had been invited to perform in last year's Tournament of Roses Parade, which was canceled due to the pandemic; the band's "West Coast swing" may have been postponed, but the AOB persevered to make a convincing comeback with a dynamic performance in this year's parade; and

WHEREAS, the AOB's collective ticket to the 133rd Tournament of Roses Parade was strongly endorsed by award-winning actor and director Levar Burton, who served as the grand marshal of the 2022 event; and

WHEREAS, the AOB's California visit also included performances at Disneyland, the California African American Museum, a Los Angeles Lakers game, and Bandfest, which featured all the parade bands in an exclusive field show; and

WHEREAS, for seventy-five years, the Tennessee State University Aristocrat of Bands has exemplified excellence among university marching bands, and as we observe this

momentous occasion, we pay tribute to Dr. McDonald and the young men and women of the AOB, who are exploring new frontiers while respecting the history and heritage of the band; and

WHEREAS, we commend the members of the AOB for their entertaining contribution to "America's New Year Celebration" at the Tournament of Roses Parade; 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 honor and recognize the Tennessee State University Aristocrat of Bands on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary and recent performance at the 133rd Tournament of Roses Parade and wish Dr. McDonald and the members of the AOB much continued success in 2022.

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.