

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1852

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and celebrate the Tipton Family Association of America on the occasion of its annual conference and reunion.

WHEREAS, family is the basic building block that shapes our society, and the lives of family members, filled with work and play, love and laughter, illness and health, grief and disappointment, and success and achievement, shape the course of our communities; and

WHEREAS, on October 7-10, 2022, the Tipton Family Association will host its annual conference and reunion in Nashville, an occasion that will celebrate this important Tennessee family's history and allow fellowship among descendants; and

WHEREAS, the Tipton Family Association is a nonprofit organization founded in 1987 by a group of Tipton family members with the purpose of fostering historical research concerning the descendants and antecedents of Jonathan Tipton, who died in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1757; and

WHEREAS, several Tipton family members have made their mark on Tennessee history, and many have possessed large land holdings in Washington and Sullivan counties, including William "Fighting Billy" Tipton, who was an early grant holder in the Cades Cove area of the Great Smoky Mountains and a cohort of Andrew Jackson; and

WHEREAS, true Tennessee pioneers, the Tiptons settled in East Tennessee before there was a Tennessee at all; American Revolution veteran Colonel John Tipton moved to the Watauga Settlements on the Western Waters in 1783; until 1796, East Tennessee was part of the colony, then state, of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, as post-revolutionary times were trying and confusing in the former colonies, Colonel Tipton utilized his considerable skills and experience as a judge, legislator,

public officer, and overall proven leader to become a pillar of the East Tennessee community;  
and

WHEREAS, Colonel John Tipton was a delegate to the State of Franklin Convention held in mid-December 1784; the Volunteer State is indebted to him for his unflagging opposition to the State of Franklin and his ability to defeat the movement, as Tennessee thereafter moved toward statehood in an orderly, straightforward manner; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Tipton continued to be a positive force in East Tennessee during the State's nascent years, serving in the unicameral legislature of the Southwest Territory, as one of the founding trustees of Washington College Academy, on the committee that wrote the State constitution, and as a member of the inaugural Tennessee Assembly representing Washington County; his home, the Tipton-Haynes Homesite, is now a Tennessee State Historic Site; and

WHEREAS, Colonel John Tipton had three sons who also served in the Tennessee Legislature: John Tipton, Jr., who served in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies as a member of the House of Representatives, representing Sullivan County, and was elected Speaker during the 7<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and who served as a member of the Senate in the 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, representing both Sullivan and Hawkins counties; Samuel Tipton, who served alongside his brother John in the House of Representatives; and Jonathan Tipton, who represented Carter, Washington, Blount, and Monroe counties during his eighteen years in the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the many contributions of these early forebears signaled an auspicious start not only for this State, but also for their many successors who would proudly carry on the Tipton name and legacy; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Tipton family have a rich and illustrious history that is sewn from the strong fibers of hard work, sacrifice, and perseverance; and

WHEREAS, we are pleased to recognize these strong and vital family members who will gather to remember their triumphs and accomplishments, recall various historical events in their family, and exchange news of current events; 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 celebrate the Tipton Family Association of America on the occasion of its annual conference and reunion and wish its members all the best as they preserve the memory of their beloved ancestors, renew family connections, and revisit their wonderful shared family history.

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.