

SENATE RESOLUTION 8004 of the Second Extraordinary Session

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Fred "Pal" Barger of Kingsport.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that the members of this legislative body should acknowledge and applaud those community leaders who are wholly devoted to enhancing the quality of life for their fellow citizens and improving and enriching the place they all call home; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Fred "Pal" Barger, who has distinguished himself as a citizen of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, after honorably serving his nation as a member of the United States Air Force, Pal Barger returned home to East Tennessee and enrolled at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), from which he graduated in 1955 with a bachelor's degree in business; and

WHEREAS, intrigued by a new trend toward fast food, Mr. Barger established Pal's Sudden Service, which quickly became a highly visible regional favorite; the restaurant's distinctive buildings, decorated with large, eye-catching images of hot dogs, Frenchie fries, and drinks, grab plenty of attention, but the quick service, good food, and reasonable prices keep customers coming back for more; and

WHEREAS, Pal Barger also became the operator of Skoby's, a premier Kingsport restaurant, upon the death of his father, the restaurant's founder, Fred Barger, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, another of Mr. Barger's enterprises was the Olde West Dinner Theatre, which he built and successfully operated for thirteen years; and

WHEREAS, generous with his time, expertise, and financial backing, Pal Barger has received recognition from numerous organizations, including being named the 2001 Outstanding Alumnus by the ETSU National Alumni Association; he also received the *Kingsport*

*Times-News* Award for Distinguished Community Service for his part in making the Kingsport Convention and Civic Center a reality, and he is a member of the Tennessee Restaurant Association's Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, a longtime supporter of his alma mater, Mr. Barger is a member of the ETSU Foundation as well as the ETSU Roan Scholars Leadership Program Committee, which helps launch the regional leaders of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, Pal Barger was honored to receive the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 2001. Bestowed annually by the President of the United States, the award represents the highest honor in the nation for manufacturing, service, small business, education, and health care; of the five awards presented in 2001, Mr. Barger's was the only small business and the first restaurant company to receive such distinction; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Pal Barger is perhaps most appreciative of the love, companionship, and support he shares with his wife, Sharon; they are the proud parents of three children and the devoted grandparents of four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Barger has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we commend Fred "Pal" Barger for his innumerable contributions to the citizens of this State and extend to him our best wishes for continued success in all his 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.