

SENATE RESOLUTION 8007 of the Second Extraordinary Session

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the fifty-fifth anniversary of the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

WHEREAS, on August 6, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law; and

WHEREAS, the Act was designed to enforce the voting rights guaranteed by the 14th and 15th Amendments to the United States Constitution, allowing a mass enfranchisement of racial minorities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is generally considered the most successful piece of civil rights legislation ever adopted by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Act codifies and effectuates the 15th Amendment's permanent guarantee that, throughout the nation, no person shall be denied the right to vote on account of race or color; and

WHEREAS, this landmark piece of federal legislation prohibits racial discrimination in voting, bans literacy tests and similar discriminatory devices, and creates legal remedies for people affected by voting discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the Act has been the single most effective tool to protect the right to vote and assure the integrity of the voting process; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we commemorate the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and honor the significance of the Act and its importance in encouraging participation in the democratic process and protecting voter rights.

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