

HOUSE RESOLUTION 260

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kristen Herring upon her being crowned Miss Black Tennessee 2007-2008.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those emerging community leaders who strive to improve the quality of life for their fellow citizens while bringing beauty, grace, and purpose to all their endeavors; and

WHEREAS, one such superlative young lady is Kristen Herring, who was recently crowned Miss Black Tennessee 2007-2008; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Byron and Iris Herring of Lumberton, North Carolina, Miss Herring currently resides in Nashville where she is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Biochemistry at Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, Miss Herring holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she was a member of the Mu Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and served as the chapter's secretary; she was also First Attendant to Miss Spelman College; and

WHEREAS, a recipient of the Dean Dewitt's Tuition Scholarship, Miss Herring is no stranger to awards and accolades for academic achievement as evidenced by her membership in the Golden Key International Honor Society, the Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Honor Society, *Who's Who Among US College Students*, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars; she was named the Best Chemistry Student for the Pre-Freshman Summer Science Program and gained recognition on the National Dean's List; and

WHEREAS, while a student at Spelman, Kristen Herring participated in numerous community service and volunteer activities, including Junior Achievement, the Boys and Girls

Club, Habitat for Humanity, the Hosea Williams Feed the Hungry Program, and AIDS Walk Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, in Nashville, Miss Herring has lent her time and talents as Secretary of the Organization of Black Graduate and Professional Students (OBGAPS) at Vanderbilt University, Secretary of the Nashville Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College (NAASC), and Secretary and Membership Chair of National Urban League Young Professionals of Middle Tennessee (ULYPMT) and has served on the Alliance for Cultural Diversity in Research (ACDR) at Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, a truly gifted musician, Kristen Herring has participated in the Spelman College String Ensemble, the Atlanta University Center Orchestra, and Morehouse King's Chapel Gospel Choir and performed in Georgia State University's original production of *Cinderella*, Spelman College's Parents' Weekend Celebration in Black, and *Ain't Misbehavin'*; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans have enjoyed Miss Herring in performance with the Nashville Community Players in *A Christmas Carol* and with the Murfreesboro Center for the Arts in their production of *Once Upon A Mattress*; and

WHEREAS, a gracious and thoughtful young lady, Kristen Herring has truly been blessed and realizes that to whom much is given, much is required; she plans to combine her pursuit of scientific knowledge with her passion for service with a career in public policy; and

WHEREAS, Kristen Herring has attained excellence in many diverse fields of human endeavor at a young age, from scholastic achievements and community outreach to pageant competition, and she should be specially praised and recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby applaud and congratulate Kristen Herring upon her coronation as Miss Black Tennessee 2007-2008 and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

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