

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 880

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the attorneys and staff of Batson, Nolan, Pearson, Miller, and Joiner, PLC, on the occasion of the firm's 150th anniversary.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly recognize and pay homage to those venerable historical Tennessee institutions that have reached a milestone in their illustrious history; and

WHEREAS, Batson, Nolan, Pearson, Miller, and Joiner, PLC, is one such revered law firm that has attained its 150th year of operation; and

WHEREAS, with a century-and-a-half record that includes a U.S. Supreme Court Justice and two presidents of the Tennessee Bar Association, this firm has always maintained its core values of integrity, dedication to excellence, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, the inception of this noteworthy firm dates back to 1860 when William Daniel, Sr., opened his law office along Strawberry Alley in Clarksville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Daniel partnered with Confederate Army veteran, Horace Lurton, in 1867, and the two attorneys earned the respect and admiration of their colleagues, clients, and the community at large for their consummate professionalism and strong work ethic; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lurton ultimately left the small firm to rise to the pinnacle of his profession, serving as a state court judge, Chief Justice of the Tennessee Supreme Court, Justice on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Dean of Vanderbilt University Law School, and finally Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, William Daniel, Sr., continued serving his clients with acumen and alacrity as a solo practitioner, eventually adding his son, William, Jr., and grandson, William III, to the Daniel firm shingle; and

WHEREAS, practicing law with uncommon devotion, enthusiasm, and industry, today's two senior members, Richard Batson and Dan Nolan, partnered with William Daniel III until his retirement in the late 1980s; and

WHEREAS, the firm's storied history is marked by several momentous events, including when William Daniel, Jr., engaged in a gun fight with his opposing counsel during a divorce hearing and when the firm's offices were decimated while facing down the wrath of Mother Nature during the tornado of 1999; and

WHEREAS, today, this Clarksville icon is a full-service law firm based at 121 S. Third Street with a satellite office opening in nearby Springfield and represents both institutional clients, as well as individuals and families throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, as dedicated to their beloved Clarksville community as they are to their successful law practice, the firm's attorneys graciously lend their time and talents to many noble and worthwhile causes, including local school boards and the Clarksville-Montgomery County Industrial Development Board; and

WHEREAS, Batson, Nolan, Peterson, Miller and Joiner, with its amazing success rate and central involvement in the community, has become one of the most reputable and recognizable legal entities in Tennessee, Kentucky, and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, the partners and employees of Batson, Nolan, Peterson, Miller and Joiner have always epitomized the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of true Tennesseans, and their dedication to serving each client with the utmost honor and professionalism is a credit to their community and this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the attorneys and loyal support staff of Batson, Nolan, Peterson, Miller and Joiner, on the occasion of the firm's 150th anniversary and extend to them 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.