

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1264

By Stewart

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Senator Ernest Crouch upon the re-dedication of Motlow College's Crouch Library.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor the memory of those legislators who performed their duties with the utmost probity, and whose efforts during their time in office were dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to this great State; and

WHEREAS, the late Senator Ernest Crouch was one such distinguished public servant who served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and distinction, and his countless contributions to his fellow citizens will soon be honored at the re-dedication of Motlow College's Crouch Library; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crouch was a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of the citizens of Warren, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, and Van Buren counties, and he served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, prior to his exemplary tenure in the Senate, Ernest Crouch was an outstanding member of the House of Representatives, honorably representing his constituents throughout the 79th, 81st, and 82nd General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, as a Senate member of the 80th and 83rd through the 93rd General Assemblies, Senator Crouch was a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always voted his conscience; and

WHEREAS, as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process, Senator Crouch served with acumen and alacrity in several leadership positions in the Senate, including Majority Leader; Majority Caucus Chairman; Chairman of the Finance, Ways and Means and

State and Local Government committees; Vice Chairman of the General Welfare Committee; and a valued member of the Legislative Services Committee, Legislative Management Committee, and Government Operations Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Crouch was the driving force behind much important and essential legislation during his tenure in the General Assembly, focusing his efforts on education and health care legislation and vigorously supporting state parks; and

WHEREAS, when he left the Senate in January of 1985, Senator Crouch had earned the distinction of serving for the longest, continuous amount of time in the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciated the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, Senator Crouch freely gave his time and energies to many community, civic, and charitable organizations, including rendering sterling service as the Chairman Emeritus of the UT Space Institute Support Council, a member of Cheer Mental Health Association, a member of the Motlow State Community College Council, a trustee of the McKendree Village Retirement and Health Care Facility, a member of Gideons International, president of the McMinnville Exchange Club, a member of the Warren County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, 32 degree Scottish Rite, Order of the Mystic Shrine, and the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Ernest Crouch was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church, where he served his Lord as a district lay leader, chairman of the Administration Board, chairman of the Committee on Evangelism, and delegate to the General Conference of United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crouch was a brilliant pharmacist who attended Martin College and the University of Tennessee and graduated from Atlanta's Crowe School of Pharmacy, from which he received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree; and

WHEREAS, possessing an entrepreneurial spirit, Ernest Crouch masterfully established and operated the Crouch Drugstore, a chain of retail pharmacies, and the Ernest Crouch Realty Company; and

WHEREAS, an active and respected member of his profession, Senator Crouch served as the president of the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy Examiners and the Tennessee

Pharmaceutical Association and a member of the Dean's Advisory Committee of the Mercer University School of Pharmacy, the Alumni Committee of the UT College of Pharmacy, and the National Association of Boards and Colleges of Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Crouch was honored with numerous awards and accolades during his illustrious career, including receiving the University of Tennessee Distinguished Service Award and being named Pharmacist of the Year by the Tennessee Pharmaceutical Association; and

WHEREAS, throughout his long and distinguished career as a public servant, Ernest Crouch worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents, bringing to his office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ernest Couch was wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and his memory should be specially recognized upon the re-dedication of Motlow College's Crouch Library in his honor; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the memory of Senator Ernest Crouch, reflect fondly upon his legacy of effective public service and his unswerving commitment to the best interests of the people of Tennessee, and join with his family, friends, and former constituents in celebrating the re-dedication of Motlow College's Crouch Library as a very appropriate tribute to this esteemed gentleman and public servant.

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