

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 534

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Cripple Creek Cloggers upon the occasion of their forty-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary organizations and their remarkable members who, through their unwavering commitment to excellence, are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such notable organization is the Cripple Creek Cloggers, whose members are committed to the preservation of Appalachian culture through song and dance and the promotion of that tradition at festivals, camps, and workshops throughout the United States and all over the world; and

WHEREAS, Appalachian clogging is a form of square dancing born out of the traditional songs, dances, and stories of English settlers, and the tradition created valuable social bonds that survived the test of time and space in the sometimes isolating mountains and foothills of this region; and

WHEREAS, that tradition lives on through the Cripple Creek Cloggers of Rutherford County in the great State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, founded by Steve Cates in 1967, the troupe began as the Kittrell 4-H Square Dancers and, from the start, won first place in the Rutherford County 4-H Share the Fun Contest and first place in the District II round; and

WHEREAS, as proof of their exceptional talent and skills, the troupe received glowing invitations to perform at the National Folk Festival in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs, Florida, the Ballet Folklorico of Puerto Rico, the Festival of the Pyrenees in France and Spain, and a host of other national and international festivals; and

WHEREAS, when they opened their membership to older teens and adults in 1980, the troupe officially became the "Cripple Creek Cloggers" and soon launched their own International Folkfest, of which they will be celebrating the thirtieth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, the Cloggers perform a great public service to the citizens of Tennessee by offering classes, free of charge, on the importance of our Appalachian heritage, represent this great State with touring performances every year, and host friends and fellow performers from all over the world to share their love of folk music and dance at the annual International Folkfest; and

WHEREAS, the Cripple Creek Cloggers are most assuredly worthy of this General Assembly's recognition and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the members, both past and present, of the Cripple Creek Cloggers for their tireless dedication to preserving Appalachian culture, congratulate them on the celebration of the troupe's forty-fifth anniversary, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their 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.