

SENATE RESOLUTION 30

By Herron

A RESOLUTION congratulating Joe Staton and Mike Curtis on their professional accomplishments.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have the distinct honor to recognize those current and former Tennesseans who have risen to the pinnacles of their fields; and

WHEREAS, Joe Staton and Mike Curtis are two such individuals who are widely known for their influence and impact in the world of syndicated comic strips and, in March, these two men will assume creative control of the legendary *Dick Tracy* comic strip; and

WHEREAS, following the impending retirement of longtime *Dick Tracy* writer Dick Locher, Mr. Staton and Mr. Curtis will become the artist and the writer, respectively, of the popular comic strip, which is celebrating its eightieth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Joe Staton, a native of Milan who graduated from Milan High School, attended Murray State University, from which he received an art degree. He is now a resident of Kingston, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mike Curtis, who now resides in Greenbrier, Arkansas, was born in Memphis and raised in Jackson, and he graduated from North Side High School before attending Union University. After graduating from Jackson State Community College, Mr. Curtis found employment in the ad services department of *The Jackson Sun* and drew cartoons for the Sun Line column; and

WHEREAS, between them, these two talented men have more than sixty years of experience in the comic industry, and they have contributed those talents to a number of comics, including *Casper the Friendly Ghost*, *Richie Rich*, and *The Green Lantern*, among several others; and

WHEREAS, Mike Curtis and Joe Staton, through their determination and the application of their talents, have risen to the top of their field, and it is wholly appropriate that this body formally recognize their accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby applaud Joe Staton and Mike Curtis on their successful careers, congratulate them on being named as the new creative team behind the *Dick Tracy* syndicated comic strip, and offer our best wishes for their 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.