

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 222

By White M

A RESOLUTION to commemorate "The Salvation Army Angel Tree Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the Angel Tree was created by The Salvation Army in 1979 by Lt. Col. Charles and Shirley White; and

WHEREAS, what began as a small charity operation in Lynchburg, Virginia, soon moved to Tennessee and thanks to heavy television and radio coverage, spread to become a nationally recognized charitable fundraiser; and

WHEREAS, The Salvation Army's Angel Tree has been a recognized family Christmas assistance program in the State of Tennessee for over thirty years; Angel Tree gives individuals and partnering corporations an opportunity to adopt less fortunate children and seniors and provide personalized gifts and necessities to those who would otherwise receive very little or nothing during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, the need for Christmas assistance is widespread across Tennessee; each year The Salvation Army holds a drive to collect gifts for the impoverished children and elderly, also known as "angels," of Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Jackson, the Tri-Cities, Chattanooga, Cleveland, Clarksville, Murfreesboro, and Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, the Angel Tree program assisted 14,681 families in the State; more than 10,000 Tennesseans purchased and donated gifts valued at more than 4 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, volunteers are essential to the successful execution of the Angel Tree program; during the past season, 10,364 volunteers gave more than 36,000 hours of their combined time to assist with the program; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee depends greatly on the efforts of organizations like The Salvation Army, which work tirelessly and consistently to improve the lives of the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, The Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program is most assuredly worthy of this General Assembly's recognition and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby join the good people of Tennessee as they celebrate "The Salvation Army Angel Tree Day" on December 1, 2013.

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