

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 601

By Casada

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Peaceful Valley Farm in College Grove as a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, in 1975, the State of Tennessee, through the Department of Agriculture, created the Tennessee Century Farms Program. The program's specific purpose is recognizing and documenting the contributions of families who have owned and farmed the same land for at least 100 years; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University assumed the responsibility of the program and now documents at least one Century Farm in all of Tennessee's ninety-five counties; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the program's thirty-year existence, 1,507 farms have been certified by the Tennessee Century Farms Program; of those, 157 are documented to be 200 years old, 634 are 150 years old, and 716 are over 100 years old; and

WHEREAS, one family farm recently designated as a Tennessee Century Farm is the Peaceful Valley Farm, which is located south of Triune in the College Grove community; and

WHEREAS, widower C. M. Smithson founded Peaceful Valley when in September of 1905 he purchased 100 acres of farmland in the south of Williamson County. He, his two sons, and his two daughters worked the land and were successful in raising tobacco, corn, wheat, hay, and livestock; and

WHEREAS, from 1925 until 1955, the farm was owned and worked by Mr. Smithson's cousin, C. T. Wallace; then Peaceful Valley came into the possession of current owner, Ennis C. Wallace, Sr., whose grandmother was a cousin of the founder; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wallace and his wife, Allean Harper Wallace, and their two sons, Ennis, Jr., and Kenneth, have been dutiful in farming this land they cherish. This family has ardently

supported the Future Farmers of America organization, and for their excellent efforts, each has been honored with the receipt of an American Farmers degree; and

WHEREAS, in addition to farming, Mr. Wallace, Sr., is a successful businessman; he is the owner of 4-Star, Inc. Farm Equipment and he is also a long-time member of the Hill Masonic Lodge and the Flat Creek Community Club; and

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to recognize the excellent work of the Tennessee Century Farms Program, and we congratulate the owners of Peaceful Valley Farm; 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 congratulate Ennis C. Wallace, Sr., upon the designation of Peaceful Valley Farm as a Tennessee Century Farm and extend our best wishes to him 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.