

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 417

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the citizens of the City of Knoxville upon the celebration of the city's 225th anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those estimable cities that are celebrating significant milestones in their history; and

WHEREAS, one such notable city is the City of Knoxville, the citizens of which will be celebrating the 225th anniversary of the city's founding on October 3, 2016; and

WHEREAS, at its birth in 1791, Knoxville was the capital of the Southwest Territory and, thus, one of only seventeen capital cities in the new United States; and

WHEREAS, the new city soon hosted one of the first American newspapers and one of the first American colleges west of the Appalachians; and

WHEREAS, within four years of its birth, the City of Knoxville led an endeavor to found the sixteenth state of the new nation, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, according to Jack Neely, executive director of the Knoxville History Project, "Although it has been almost 200 years since Knoxville has served its original purpose, as a capital of government, Knoxville has grown in different and unexpected ways, politically, industrially, culturally, educationally, to become an emblematic American city, and central to the story of a nation that was new when Knoxville was founded."; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, the historic homes and museums of Knoxville have preserved the city's rich history, while annual festivals including Dogwood Arts, Big Ears, Rossini, and the East Tennessee History Fair exhibit the many ways in which Knoxville is culturally diverse and historically significant; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this momentous occasion, Visit Knoxville will collaborate with numerous art, historical, and cultural organizations throughout the year to highlight Knoxville's unique past; and

WHEREAS, this body wishes to grasp this golden opportunity to honor and commend the great City of Knoxville and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the City of Knoxville and its citizens, both past and present, upon the celebration of the city's 225th anniversary.

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