

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 772

By Staples

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the University of Tennessee Spirit program, cheerleading and dance national champions.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those exemplary sports teams and athletes who have attained the pinnacle of competition, bringing great honor and acclaim to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such resolute group of athletes is the University of Tennessee (UT) Spirit program, which clinched national titles in cheerleading and dance at the 2020 Universal Cheerleading Association (UCA) & Universal Dance Association (UDA) College Cheerleading and Dance National Championships in Orlando, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee cheer squad won its first-ever national championship in the Division 1A Game Day Competition on January 17, 2020; two days later, the dance team won the national championship in the pom performance category, to claim the school's sixth national title overall, having previously won five national championships in jazz performance; and

WHEREAS, UT is the first UCA/UDA Division 1A school in the country to claim at least one national championship in every main spirit category, including cheer, dance, and mascot; the UT Spirit program now has an all-time total of ten national championships, with six dance titles, three mascot titles, and one cheer title; and

WHEREAS, the Big Orange also posted three top-ten finishes in other categories at the UCA & UDA College Cheerleading and Dance National Championships; Smokey placed sixth in the mascot finals, making UT the only Southeastern Conference school to have all three branches of its spirit program post top-ten finishes; and

WHEREAS, the UT Spirit program is made up of sixty-nine world-class competitors from thirteen states, and fifty-one of those students are Tennessee natives; all three members of the coaching staff are alumni of UT's Spirit program; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that these outstanding young people and their coaches should be recognized for their accomplishments in spirit competition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the members of the University of Tennessee Spirit program for winning national championships in cheerleading and dance and extend to them our best wishes for 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.