

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 871

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Nashville State Community College on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, since 1970, Nashville State Community College has been building bridges and changing lives for Metro Nashville and Middle Tennessee residents to learn and train in industries with long-term career fields; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College has been dedicated to making sure higher education is accessible and affordable to students who want to achieve economic success through associate degree and technical education programs and the advancement and transfer of its students to baccalaureate degree programs; and

WHEREAS, when the first campus of Nashville State (Technical Institute) opened on White Bridge Road in West Nashville, the college served 398 students and offered five associate degree programs; and

WHEREAS, today, Nashville State Community College, which became a community college in 2002 by act of the Tennessee General Assembly, has the most diverse student population and more nontraditional, adult learners (twenty-five years and older) than any other Tennessee Community College; and

WHEREAS, based on Fall 2019 enrollment, Nashville State serves more than 7,800 students, of which 1,021 are dual enrollment students, 1,373 are Tennessee Promise recipients, and 1,380 are Tennessee Reconnect grant recipients; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College offers more than eighty degrees and certificates for in-demand fields, such as nursing and IT, through classes taught online and on

its six campuses across seven counties—Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphries, Montgomery, and Stewart—in Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Nashville State will break ground on a seventh campus, which will be located in the Madison/Rivergate area of Davidson County; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College provides thousands of Tennesseans with a traditional college experience through programming and activities, such as its award-winning band in the blues, pop, and rock category and its Kung Fu Society, which has produced national champions; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College is proud of its graduates, including business and community luminaries Milton Johnson, former CEO and Chairman of the Board for HCA Healthcare, and Joey Hatch, a Tennessee Board of Regents member and former Skanska USA Executive Vice President and General Manager; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College has taken a holistic community approach to education, where it not only focuses on current students but has a vested interest in K-12 students and adults looking for career changes; and

WHEREAS, in Nashville, more recent Metro Nashville Public Schools graduates attend Nashville State than any other college, and the institution partners with the school system's career academies, operates an Early College High School Program, and houses the Academy at Hickory Hollow to allow high school students to finish high school in a nontraditional setting; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Nashville State Community College partnered with Metro Nashville to pilot Nashville GRAD as the first college in the South to use a model from the City University of New York System that has proven to double college completion rates by supporting students financially and academically and with dedicated advisors and wrap-around services; and

WHEREAS, additionally in 2019, Nashville State Community College launched a manufacturers management training program for companies in Dickson supporting front line leaders in the industry; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Nashville State Community College launched apprenticeships supporting manufacturing industries in Humphries County and the IT industry in Nashville and began an Industrial Readiness Training program to support Clarksville manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College has the only accredited culinary program in Middle Tennessee supporting the region's food and tourism industry that hosts over 15 million visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College has established articulation agreements with traditional four-year institutions for students looking to continue their education beyond the associate degree level, including Middle Tennessee State University, Belmont University, Lipscomb University, Tennessee State University, and the Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College continues to develop relationships and establish official agreements with business industry leaders that will offer students hands-on experience and networking opportunities, while creating a workforce talent pipeline; and

WHEREAS, Nashville State Community College is committed to providing exceptional educational instruction for students for the next fifty years and making sure high-level talent for Middle Tennessee's diversifying workforce is available; 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 commend the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and supporters of Nashville State Community College for their commitment to higher education, congratulate them upon the fiftieth anniversary of Nashville State Community College, and extend our best wishes 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.