

HOUSE RESOLUTION 354

By Curcio

A RESOLUTION to honor the *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* exhibition, June 20-August 12, 2020, in Charlotte.

WHEREAS, we take great pride in celebrating those special events that provide new opportunities to learn about and appreciate artistic expressions, cultural exchanges, and our shared history; and

WHEREAS, one such special event is the *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* exhibition, which will be on display to the public from June 20-August 12, 2020, at the Promise Land Historic Site in Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, the Promise Land community, located in Dickson County, was settled and established by former slaves shortly after the Civil War. Some of the early settlers of this community were veterans of the United States Colored Troop (USCT) of the Civil War. They were Landin Williams, Clark Garrett, Edward Vanleer, and brothers, John and Arch Nesbitt; and

WHEREAS, in time, the community encompassed approximately 1,000 acres with more than fifty homes, a general mercantile store, three churches, and an elementary school; and

WHEREAS, today, all that remains of this once thriving community is one of the original three churches and the school. The site of these remains has been designated as the Promise Land Historic Site; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Promise Land Heritage Association is to preserve and interpret the history of the Promise Land Historic Site and its impact on African-American culture and to implement interpretative and educational programs specific to the Promise Land community and the African-American cultural experience; and

WHEREAS, funded by the United States Congress, the *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* exhibition is a Museum on Main Street exhibition organized by the Smithsonian Institution and brought to Charlotte by Humanities Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* offers small towns a chance to look at their own paths to highlight the changes that affected their fortunes over the past century. This exhibit will prompt discussions about what happened when America's rural population became a minority of the country's population and the ripple effects that occurred; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte is the sixth and final stop in Tennessee for this important traveling exhibition, after which it will be returned to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and celebrate the grand opening of the *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* exhibition in Charlotte on June 20, 2020.

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