

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1114

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the sixtieth running of the Food City 500 and the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race at Bristol Motor Speedway.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those landmark facilities and special events that contribute significantly to this nation's proud heritage of auto racing; and

WHEREAS, the Bristol Motor Speedway (BMS) is an iconic racetrack in the world of motor sports; the .533-mile concrete oval track hosted its first NASCAR race in 1961 and is the home of two popular NASCAR Cup Series races today; and

WHEREAS, BMS is affectionately known among fans as "The Last Great Colosseum" because the racing surface is completely surrounded by grandstands on all sides; and

WHEREAS, also renowned as "The World's Fastest Half-Mile," BMS regularly welcomes visitors from across the U.S. and around the globe and is a beloved destination for racing fans, in addition to being a central driver and major contributor to the economy of Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Food City 500 NASCAR Cup Series Race at Bristol Motor Speedway is the cornerstone of the spring race weekend at Bristol Motor Speedway and one of the most highly anticipated and popular races on the NASCAR schedule; and

WHEREAS, the sixtieth running of the Food City 500 will be held at BMS on Sunday afternoon, April 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Bass Pro Shops NRA NASCAR Cup Series Night Race was traditionally held on the Saturday night of the final weekend in August as the highlight of the August Race Week at BMS; and

WHEREAS, celebrated as "America's Night Race," the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race is an exhilarating 500-lap race widely recognized as one of the top racing experiences worldwide; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the race has been moved to mid-September to increase its prominence as the elimination race for the NASCAR playoffs' Round of 16; and

WHEREAS, the sixtieth running of the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race will be held at BMS on Saturday night, September 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially honor these two tremendous sporting events for their economic impact and their special place in the hearts of American racing fans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commemorate the sixtieth running of the Food City 500 Race and the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race at Bristol Motor Speedway as part of the NASCAR Cup Series and join with the citizens of Northeast Tennessee and race fans from around the globe in celebrating these signature racing events in 2020.

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.