

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1273

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Arts Center of Cannon County on the occasion of its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize and pay tribute to those institutions that are celebrating a significant milestone in their history; and

WHEREAS, throughout its forty-year history, the Arts Center of Cannon County has proudly served its community as a small-business incubator, community center, educational facility, and year-round gathering place for public and private events; it continues to fulfill its mission of presenting and preserving the arts in Cannon County by showcasing music, dance, sculpture, painting, quilting, basket-making, and other fine arts created for and by the community; and

WHEREAS, boasting extensive expansion from its humble beginning as a community theater group operating from a gym basement, the Arts Center is now an 18,000-square-foot building that houses galleries, halls, and modern theater spaces; this facility acts as a home for artists all around the Middle Tennessee area; and

WHEREAS, the Arts Center founded Spring Fed Records in 2002, which specializes in unique and historically significant recordings of traditional Southern music; Spring Fed has since become a Grammy-winning record label with a repertoire that includes new collections from such artists as Mississippi John Hurt and Lorenzo Martinez & "Rabbit" Sanchez; and

WHEREAS, the Art Center's forty years include a long relationship with Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), thanks to the students, employees, alumni, and supporters who have both enjoyed the center's exhibits and entertainment and participated in them as artists, performers, behind-the-scenes staffers, and many other roles; the longtime alliance with

MTSU's Center for Popular Music in the College of Media and Entertainment ultimately led to the Art Center donating Spring Fed Records' label name and rights to the MTSU organization in 2014; and

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2020, the nationally-recognized center opened a new addition to the public to commemorate its 1980 founding; the recent opening of the Arts Center's new classroom and practice rooms marked the fifth expansion in its thirty years at the Bragg Highway facility; and

WHEREAS, for forty years, the Arts Center of Cannon County has served as a creative outlet to an underserved rural area, and it is fitting that we celebrate with its administration and staff as they commemorate this milestone in the center's history; 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 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arts Center of Cannon County.

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.