

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7037 of the First Extraordinary Session

By Swann

A RESOLUTION to recognize Bob Patterson on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, Bob Patterson is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for sixteen years as executive director of the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center and who recently announced he will be taking his much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, the first and only executive director of the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center since it opened on February 12, 2006, Mr. Patterson has overseen the growth of the facility from an initial 3,000 square feet of exhibit space to more than 54,000 square feet, which now houses a library, an outdoor amphitheater, a transportation center, and multiple interactive and computer-based exhibits; and

WHEREAS, a native of Colorado, Mr. Patterson founded a museum in Clarksville in 1983 and served as president of the Tennessee Association of Museums; and

WHEREAS, Bob Patterson also oversaw the relocation and reconstruction of a children's museum in St. Petersburg, Florida, before being named executive director of the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center; and

WHEREAS, a devoted husband and father, Mr. Patterson is perhaps proudest of the love and support he shares with his wife and three children; and

WHEREAS, Bob Patterson exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Bob Patterson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and everyone associated with the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center; 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 extend to Bob Patterson our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his 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.