

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7039 of the First Extraordinary Session

By White

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Cliff and Jane Sharp and Greenhouse Ministries for twenty years of service.

WHEREAS, the many fine ministries across this State are crucial elements contributing to the social and spiritual health of Tennessee, and we are pleased to recognize significant milestones in their histories; and

WHEREAS, since January 1999, Greenhouse Ministries has proudly served the working poor, the displaced, disabled, and homeless citizens, and the struggling single parents of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, for twenty years, Greenhouse Ministries has embraced a two-fold purpose: to help, educate, and connect the underserved through the power of God's love, nurturing them in a safe place, and to offer a community-based place for volunteers to share their gifts for the glory of God; and

WHEREAS, Cliff and Jane Sharp, executive directors, established Greenhouse Ministries' vision of "Planting Hope in the Boro" and developed a mission to provide relational services/ministries designed to inspire, give hope, and change lives through a network of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Sharps began their laudable service to Murfreesboro through their work in the Franklin Heights federal housing project, where they built relationships of trust and support with the residents; and

WHEREAS, perceiving a gap in services to single mothers and the working poor, Mr. and Mrs. Sharp started Greenhouse Ministries to serve those who were being overlooked and underserved, show them hope, and take them from a place of getting to a place of giving; and

WHEREAS, Greenhouse Ministries, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, does not ask income questions nor does it base benefits on employment, but instead serves all with love and respect; and

WHEREAS, Greenhouse Ministries requires over 500 volunteer hours per week to operate; volunteers perform a wide variety of tasks, confident in their freedom to express their God-given talents; and

WHEREAS, today, Greenhouse Ministries continues to expand and stay relevant to the needs of the community, wholly committed to sharing the love of Jesus through practical services that make a difference; and

WHEREAS, Greenhouse Ministries operates a thrift store that continues to blossom as a place for volunteers and mentorship and recently embarked on an expansion capital campaign that is expected to break ground in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Sharp family has resided in Murfreesboro since 1988; Mr. Sharp was honored as the 2006 Public Citizen of the Year by the Tennessee Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers for his outstanding community service; and

WHEREAS, twenty years after being called by God to start Greenhouse Ministries, Cliff and Jane Sharp remain committed to helping people discover hope, and they are most deserving of our approbation; 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 join with Cliff and Jane Sharp and the dedicated volunteers of Greenhouse Ministries in observing their twentieth anniversary of helping people change their lives through the love of Jesus Christ and extend our best wishes for much continued success and fulfillment in performing God's work.

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