

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7015
By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Jack Faris on the occasion of his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Federation of Independent Business.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize and commend those exemplary citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as business, professional, and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Jack Faris is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for over thirteen years as President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB); and

WHEREAS, Jack Faris became the NFIB's fourth President in April of 1992, and throughout his tenure, he has helped to provide small and independent businesses with the resources and services needed to succeed in today's business world; and

WHEREAS, the National Federation of Independent Business is the largest advocacy organization representing small and independent businesses in Washington, D.C. and all fifty state capitals; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Faris' watch, the NFIB was ranked the most influential business organization and third overall most influential organization in the "Washington's Power 25" survey conducted by *Fortune* magazine in 1999; and

WHEREAS, before his meritorious service with the NFIB, Mr. Faris worked in the banking industry for many years, and he later joined Joe M. Rodgers and Associates, an international construction firm; and

WHEREAS, a small business owner himself, Mr. Faris managed and owned his own marketing and management consulting firm for twelve years, working primarily with small and independent businesses; and

WHEREAS, Jack Faris served as Campaign Finance Director for former Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander in 1978, and he served as Executive Director of the Republican National Finance Committee from 1978-1981; and

WHEREAS, in 1995 President Bill Clinton named Mr. Faris to the National Commission on Economic Growth and Tax Reform; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Faris' astute leadership, the NFIB launched the Small Business Works for America program, coordinated Rally on the Hill in 1996, and sponsored the first Congressional Small Business Summit in 1998; at the fourth Small Business Summit in 2004, President George W. Bush was the key-note speaker; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Faris was named to the top spot on the "Power 30 List" by *Fortune Small Business* magazine in 2000; and

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush named Jack Faris to the President's Economic Council (PEC) in 2002, and Mr. Harris has since traveled to China with Secretary of Commerce Don Evans and fellow PEC members; and

WHEREAS, constantly working for the rights of small business owners, Jack Faris and the NFIB recently initiated a campaign to help small business owners acquire affordable health care insurance; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Faris received the 2003 *Nashville Business Journal's* Champion of Small Business Award, a testament to his devoted and committed service; and

WHEREAS, after his many years of tireless service to the National Federation of Independent Business and small businesses throughout this venerable Nation, Jack Faris will be taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Faris is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including the American Cancer Society, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Nashville Symphony; he has also served as President of the Nashville Rotary Club; and

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

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Jack Faris has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and the entire business community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Jack Faris, a true champion of the American entrepreneurial spirit, our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in all 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.