

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 111

By Miller

A RESOLUTION relative to corporations that discontinue their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs.

WHEREAS, while recent attacks on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs and initiatives have cynically branded such efforts as "radical and wasteful," nothing could be farther from the truth; and

WHEREAS, DEI policies reflect the corrective legislative and legal actions taken across our nation's history to expand and guarantee access to the educational, economic, and civic obligations and capacities of our nation; and

WHEREAS, DEI principles and policies promote equal access to opportunities, foster an environment of respect and belonging, and ensure that every individual, regardless of background, can fully participate in all aspects of society; and

WHEREAS, DEI is essential to creating a society in which all individuals are valued, heard, and included; and

WHEREAS, DEI is based on removing barriers to opportunity so that our merits can speak for themselves; and

WHEREAS, DEI is committed to widening pathways for every community, so that all people can reap the benefits of shared prosperity in our nation; and

WHEREAS, recent attacks upon DEI are harmful to the bottom line and the health of our economy, as companies that embrace DEI operate both more efficiently and more humanely; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that it is the sense of this legislative body that American corporations

discontinuing their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs will suffer a negative impact on their revenues, as American consumers will pursue other options to purchase goods and services from companies that are committed to DEI.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we strongly urge and encourage all American corporations and other American institutions to uphold DEI principles that promote inclusivity, protect freedom of expression, remove barriers, and provide equitable opportunities for all individuals to pursue their dreams.