

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 130

By Freeman

A RESOLUTION to recognize YWCA Nashville & Middle Tennessee on the celebration of its 125th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those exemplary organizations and their remarkable personnel who work with purpose and conviction to improve the quality of life in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable organization is YWCA Nashville & Middle Tennessee, which is commemorating its 125th anniversary, marking over twelve decades of providing essential services to the women of Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1898, the YWCA is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all; and

WHEREAS, in its devotion to supporting women, the YWCA began providing emergency services for women referred by the Rape and Crisis Center in 1974, and in 1976, it opened the Try Angle House for troubled teenage girls; and

WHEREAS, the YWCA founded the first domestic abuse shelter in Nashville in 1980 and then subsequently opened the Weaver Domestic Violence Center in 2000, the largest emergency shelter of its kind in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the YWCA's advocacy work helped to secure the creation of Shear Haven in 2017, an education training program for domestic violence survivors in the beauty industry, and the passage of a State law in 2021 to implement mandatory training in said industry; and

WHEREAS, the organization offers numerous services for both women and men, including domestic violence services; Girls Inc., an educational curricula that empowers young girls to succeed; AMEND Together, a program that provides classes for men to learn a healthy

masculinity; Dress for Success, a service that provides women with professional dress to achieve success in the workplace; and Re-New at the YWCA, a volunteer-run program that places domestic abuse survivors into newly refurbished homes; and

WHEREAS, committed to community, the YWCA has helped women, children, and families in the Nashville and Middle Tennessee community build safer, more self-sufficient lives for 125 years; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are privileged to recognize YWCA Nashville & Middle Tennessee for its countless contributions to the well-being of the citizens of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commemorate the 125th anniversary of YWCA Nashville & Middle Tennessee, salute its administration and staff for their ongoing commitment to providing essential services to the women of Tennessee, and wish these dedicated professionals all the best in their 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.