

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 220

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Baptist churches of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the oldest churches in the State of Tennessee adhere to the Baptist faith and Bible doctrine; and

WHEREAS, Baptist churches have helped establish many of Tennessee's finest communities; and

WHEREAS, their teaching of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and the desire of Baptist congregants to live like Him have aided the cultivation of many law-abiding citizens; and

WHEREAS, a plethora of Tennessee's illustrious citizens and statesmen throughout the centuries have been distinguished members of Baptist churches; and

WHEREAS, Baptist ministries employ many citizens in the State via a variety of mediums, such as radio, television, and internet, as well as through the printing of Biblical literature and Christian bookstores; and

WHEREAS, desiring to assist in the physical and spiritual growth of children, Baptists organize many character-building Bible Clubs and after-school programs or daycares; operate numerous summer youth camps and sports leagues; and care for the less fortunate among us with various children's homes for orphans and wayward teens; and

WHEREAS, with a commitment to advance quality Christian education, Baptists have founded and maintained some of Tennessee's oldest and finest grade schools, colleges, seminaries, and universities; and

WHEREAS, Baptists are interested in promoting the well-being of all people: many Baptist organizations lovingly care for the deaf and blind, people with special needs, and the

elderly; many churches offer a wide range of emotional and addiction therapy programs, even ministering to those who are incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, Baptists have a mutual concern for the weak and destitute, they annually provide millions of dollars in supplies through their charities, such as food banks, clothing drives, homeless shelters, natural disaster aid, and medical missions locally and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Baptists are primarily concerned with meeting the spiritual needs of every person, regardless of background or social status; their number one mission is to preach the Bible while declaring the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the only Savior of the world and, if it be possible, live peaceably with all men; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize the Baptist churches of Tennessee, thank them for their notable service to their Lord and the State of Tennessee, and wish them much continued success and happiness.

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