

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 247

By Bass

A RESOLUTION to designate June 18, 2011, as "Forrest Homecoming and Southern Heritage Festival Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, this year marks the sesquicentennial of the outset of the of the Civil War and it is fitting that special celebration be held to commemorate and remember that epic chapter in American history; and

WHEREAS, Chapel Hill is the location of the ancestral home of William Forrest, a farmer and blacksmith who purchased a two-story log home on more than one hundred acres of land. He moved his family to Chapel Hill in 1830; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Forrest's oldest son was Nathan Bedford Forrest, the military genius whose tactics are still studied in military schools today; and

WHEREAS, the Forrest land was originally a Revolutionary War land grant and passed through several owners, including General Forrest's grandfather and namesake, Nathan; and

WHEREAS, a working farm through the 1960's, the Forrest home and forty-nine acres were purchased in 1982 by the State of Tennessee with the intent of restoring the home and making it a satellite park of Henry Horton State Park; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, the Sons of Confederate Veterans acquired the property and have been restoring the cabin and the barn, which is from the same period, while also clearing the grounds around the homesite; and

WHEREAS, General Forrest's boyhood home is now the site of the Forrest Homecoming and Southern Heritage Festival, held every June. Visitors can see 19th Century crafts, listen to music, take in lectures on local and Southern history, and sample Southern food and hospitality; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and designate June 18, 2011, as "Forrest Homecoming and Southern Heritage Festival Day" in Tennessee.

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