

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 328

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Angelo Lucchesi for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as the first salesman for the Jack Daniel Distillery.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are honored to recognize those individuals in this State who have dedicated their careers to the pursuit of excellence; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Angelo Lucchesi, who played an integral role in taking the Jack Daniel product to greater heights as the distillery's first salesman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucchesi embarked upon his illustrious sales career with the Jack Daniel Distillery on October 1, 1953, and since that fateful day, his position as Marketing and Public Relations Consultant has carried him across the country and around the globe in his task of relating the rich and renowned history of the Tennessee Whiskey; and

WHEREAS, before becoming a key ambassador for Jack Daniel's, Mr. Lucchesi befriended the four sons of Jack Daniel's nephew and master distiller, Lem Motlow, when he was twenty-four years old in 1945; and

WHEREAS, given the nickname "Kid" by the legendary Frank Sinatra, Mr. Lucchesi was introduced to a host of Hollywood stars when he became a personal friend of "The Voice," who helped promote Jack Daniel's brand around the globe; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his singular abilities and his many years of enthusiastic commitment to his company, the Jack Daniel Distillery renamed the theater at the Tennessee Visitor's Center in Lynchburg, Tennessee, "The Angelo Lucchesi Theater," as a tribute to his indelible legacy; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a pioneer in his trade, Angelo Lucchesi was honored on December 24, 2010, for his ninetieth birthday, with his own limited-edition bottle of Jack Daniel's

Old No. 7, complete with the story of Mr. Lucchesi's fifty-seven-year career with the brand printed on the back of the bottle and on a small tag that hangs around the bottle's neck; and

WHEREAS, instrumental in promoting the brand he loved, Angelo Lucchesi is one of only four people in the world authorized to sign the products of Jack Daniel, and he remains a vital member of the Brown Foreman Company to this day; and

WHEREAS, Angelo Lucchesi has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his service in numerous noteworthy organizations, including rendering sterling service on the Board of Directors of the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Board of Directors of Saint Peter Villa; he also served on the Board of Directors of The Mid-South Fair and Coliseum, as president of the Berclair Lions Club for two terms, and as president of the Memphis chapter of UNICO; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of his community, Mr. Lucchesi is a 4th degree Knight and has served as vice president of the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Angelo Lucchesi was the recipient of the Outstanding Italian American Citizen award from UNICO, the Joseph P. Cianci Humanitarian Award, the St. Peter the Rock Award from St. Peter Villa, and the Outstanding Italian Community Member Award at the Holy Rosary Italian Fest; he was also inducted into the Christian Brothers High School Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Angelo Lucchesi, one of thirteen children, was born on December 24, 1920, to Mary and Anthony "Tony" Lucchesi, who were Italian Immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucchesi was happily married to Cecilia Marie Pieroni for fifty-four years before she passed on to her great reward in January of 2005; the couple's blessed union produced four children, Angela, Tish, Denise, and Anthony; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Mr. Lucchesi, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; 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 honor Angelo Lucchesi for his dedication and ambassadorship as the first salesman for the Jack Daniel Distillery, thank him for his meritorious service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee, and commend him upon his illustrious fifty-seven-year career with the Jack Daniels Distillery.

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