

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 951

By Gillespie

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Pat Halloran of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Pat Halloran of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, during his eighty years, Pat Halloran was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Halloran grew up in Omaha, Nebraska, where his father owned a movie theater and booked musicals such as *The King and I*, *Oklahoma!* and *The Sound of Music*; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Pat Halloran moved to Memphis and led the local chapter of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, for eleven years; he was elected to the Memphis City Council, and he retired from his fraternity in 1979 to run for mayor; and

WHEREAS, Pat Halloran went on to follow in his father's footsteps and was eventually asked to lead fundraising efforts to save the Orpheum Theatre, which was facing demolition; and

WHEREAS, the theater officially reopened its doors in 1984; throughout his tenure, Mr. Halloran brought more than 300 Broadway shows to the Orpheum, including *Phantom of the Opera*, which required a \$9-million stage expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Orpheum hosted hundreds of concerts and celebrities, many of whom have stars displayed on the theater's "Sidewalk of Stars," including Bob Dylan, Tyler Perry, Isaac Hayes, Cybill Shepherd, and Robin Williams, among others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Halloran served the Orpheum Theatre as president, and following his retirement in 2015, he founded Positively Memphis, a group that has helped the less fortunate in the community; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Pat Halloran won three Tony Awards in recognition of his production of Broadway shows such as *Memphis: The Musical*, which debuted at the Orpheum Theatre; and

WHEREAS, The Halloran Centre for Performing Arts and Education, which is located next to the theater, was named in his honor and hosts more than 60,000 students each year; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Halloran will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by his wife, Anne; his children; and his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Pat Halloran was a true leader in the Memphis community; his momentous impact on the arts and the music industry will live on through his philanthropic endeavors and the Orpheum Theatre for years to come; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; 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 honor the memory of Pat Halloran, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Halloran.

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.