

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 987

By Farmer

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the chartering of the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at East Tennessee State University.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in honoring those worthy fraternal organizations that are dedicated to developing men of integrity, intellect, success, and high moral character and to fostering a truly lifelong fraternal experience; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 1954, the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity was chartered at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), thereby becoming the university's first national Greek fraternity or sorority; and

WHEREAS, for seven decades, the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of "SigEp" has been integrally involved in all facets of student life at ETSU; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter's mission of "building balanced men" has made the fraternity a leader of the Greek community and a model for fraternities at ETSU; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter has attained numerous Sigma Phi Epsilon national awards, including its highest award, the Buchanan Cup, and numerous Excelsior Cups for superior chapter operations; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter undergraduates demonstrate commitment to the chapter's cardinal principles of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love through annual philanthropic and community service campaigns; and

WHEREAS, since 2005, Tennessee Gamma Chapter has demonstrated its commitment as a partner in education with ETSU by annually awarding the Frank Rutherford Balanced Man Scholarship to exceptional incoming first-year students; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter has produced recipients of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Citation, Sigma Phi Epsilon Distinguished Alumnus, and Sigma Phi Epsilon Distinguished Volunteer awards; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter alumni have supported East Tennessee State University with loyalty and distinction, including current and past members of the board of directors of the ETSU Foundation and five past presidents of the ETSU National Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, eight Tennessee Gamma Chapter alumni have been recognized as East Tennessee State University Alumnus of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter alumni are represented in the ETSU Sports, Business, Technology, and ROTC halls of fame; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Gamma Chapter alumni have been recognized with ETSU Awards of Distinction in Higher Education and the Armed Services; and

WHEREAS, ETSU's Carrier Center for Student Success and Engagement is named in honor of Tennessee Gamma Chapter charter member Ronald Carrier and his wife, Edith; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at East Tennessee State University is richly deserving of this body's recognition and approbation; 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 join in commemorating the seventieth anniversary of the chartering of the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at East Tennessee State University and extend to the members of this illustrious organization every continued success and happiness 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.