

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 322

By Walley

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Tennessee Association of Human Resource Agencies on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the members of this General Assembly to recognize those venerable organizations that strive to serve the essential needs of citizens throughout this State; and

WHEREAS, one such organization is the Tennessee Association of Human Resource Agencies (TAHRA), which celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year, marking half a century of providing social services to residents of all ninety-five counties in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, TAHRA traces its genesis back to 1964, when President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty saw the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act, which included the creation of the Office of Economic Development (OEO) and of Community Action Agencies to "strike poverty at its source"; and

WHEREAS, by 1969, the OEO had begun several programs that are still recognizable today, including Head Start, legal services, foster grandparents, economic development, summer youth programs, and congregate meal sites; and

WHEREAS, following the advent of the Human Resource Agency Act of 1973, TAHRA has established an effective statewide network to deliver social services to Tennessee communities; every day, the organization helps more Tennesseans become self-sufficient through the effective delivery of a variety of important social services; and

WHEREAS, the categories of services provided across the state include children and youth services, community services, community intervention, education and employment, nutrition, health care, elderly and disability services, transportation, and housing; and

WHEREAS, TAHRA is responsible for bringing such vital programs to communities as Head Start, community development and housing for those with special needs, drug court, American Job Centers, summer and at-risk food initiatives, in-home medical assistance, family caregiver support, rural public transportation, and low-income home energy assistance, to name only a few; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, TAHRA has expertly executed its mandate of serving the needs of some of the most vulnerable populations across the Volunteer State, improving the well-being of countless Tennesseans and helping build better, stronger communities; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we applaud this august organization on this momentous occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the Tennessee Association of Human Resource Agencies upon the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, extending our gratitude for its important work and our best wishes for much continued success.

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.