

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 492

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Tanners Historic Café and store on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary Tennessee landmarks that have contributed to the enduring legacy of the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, one such historic establishment is the edifice that houses Tanners Historic Café and store in Wartburg, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, owned and operated by four generations of the Tanner family, the building that houses Tanners Café and store was built in 1906 and initially served as the first bank in Morgan County; when the bank found a permanent location, the Tanner family purchased the building and used it as an ice cream shop and a pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, an addition to the building, presently known as Tanners Historic Café, was constructed in 1923, and it served as a general store with thousands of items on display; and

WHEREAS, with prominent historical features, including covered porches and roof finials, Tanners Historic Café and store is located near the courthouse square in Wartburg, and the structure is on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the building began to deteriorate, and after careful negotiations, the Morgan County Tourism Alliance purchased the building and agreed that the Tanner name would always be associated with the café and store; and

WHEREAS, the building sold in 2019, and restoration began immediately, as the building did not have water or functional plumbing, and the electrical wiring from the early 1920s had to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, additionally, ceilings, walls, and most of the floors were replaced, and the kitchen was gutted and updated; a portion of the windows was replaced, and others were opened up to the original building design and replaced with double pane glass; and

WHEREAS, considered an anchor to the neighborhood, Tanners Historic Café has served as an important commercial and social center for the community, where many residents spent their teenage and childhood years hanging out and enjoying ice cream in the store's early days; and

WHEREAS, the present patrons of Tanners Historic Café and store frequent the establishment for its exceptional food and welcoming atmosphere, making it a staple of the Morgan County community both today and for many years to come; 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 hereby honor and commend the owners, staff, and patrons, both past and present, of Tanners Historic Café and store on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for every future 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.