

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 747

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION recognizing the occasion of the East Tennessee State University and University High School All Years' Reunion.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those educational institutions in this State that are celebrating auspicious and memorable occasions; and

WHEREAS, East Tennessee State University and its University High School are two such institutions that will soon hold an All Years' Reunion, during which all former alumni will be invited to celebrate together; and

WHEREAS, created together using state funding in 1911, the University School, now University High School, and East Tennessee Normal School, now East Tennessee State University, have stood as paragons of educational excellence for more than a century; and

WHEREAS, University High School was originally designed to provide practical classroom training experience to individuals pursuing a teaching certificate from the Johnson City normal school, and was originally referred to as the "Observation and Practice School"; and

WHEREAS, Professor Samuel W. Sherrill was University High School's first director and oversaw its growth and expansion during its first years. The school added a curriculum for eighth grade in 1914, relocated from the administration building to a separate structure in 1915, and in 1929, University High School moved into a new, three-story structure named the Training School; and

WHEREAS, the school continued to grow; in 1947, the school added an eleventh-grade curriculum and the year before the State of Tennessee approved the addition of a twelfth-grade curriculum to the school. The school's first class of graduates earned their diplomas in 1949. In

1963, when ETSU gained university status, the Training School was renamed as the University School; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, the school building was dedicated in honor of Dr. Philip Alexander, the school's director between 1927 and 1948, and in 1979, the school became part of the Washington County School System, but to this day continues to be administered through ETSU's College of Education; and

WHEREAS, since its founding, University School has thrived, growing from four teachers in 1911 to more than forty faculty members today. The school currently has an enrollment of 540 students and has as its mission statement: "As a model K-12 school, we are committed to an integrated academic curriculum emphasizing science and mathematics, which prepares all students and future educators to contribute to and succeed in a technologically oriented and global society."; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting, as these schools welcome back their alumni for this All Years' Reunion, that this body recognize this occasion of reminiscing of school days past, relating triumphs and adventures occurring throughout the years, and sharing current news while enjoying the warmth and fellowship of old friends; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize East Tennessee State University and University School on the occasion of their All Years' Reunion, extending our best wishes for a joyous, successful reunion.

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