State of Tennessee

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 356

By Senators Crowe, Dickerson, Harper, Johnson, Niceley, Overbey

and

Representatives Reedy, Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor country music legend Tanya Tucker.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing those artists who devote themselves to their craft, thereby enriching the lives of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Tanya Tucker, a ten-time Grammy-nominated country recording artist whose career has spanned over three decades; and

WHEREAS, born on October 10, 1958, in Seminole, Texas, Ms. Tucker grew up throughout the Southwest, moving as her father's construction work required; and

WHEREAS, at the age of six, Tanya Tucker began taking saxophone lessons; however, she soon realized that she much preferred singing to playing the woodwind instrument; and

WHEREAS, she made her professional debut with country great Mel Tillis, who was quite impressed with the aspiring artist's talent; thereafter, she and her family moved to Las Vegas, where the young Tanya regularly performed; and

WHEREAS, a precocious girl whose confident, full-bodied vocals belied her youth, Tanya Tucker signed with Columbia Records and landed her first country hit, "Delta Dawn," when she was only thirteen years old, signaling an auspicious start to a musical career that continues today; and

WHEREAS, the following year, Ms. Tucker scored her first No. 1 on the country charts with "What's Your Mama's Name"; then, at fifteen, Tanya Tucker had a Grammy Award–nominated song to her credit and was one of the first country artists to appear on the cover of *Rolling Stone* magazine; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tucker's talent and hard work have garnered her countless accolades over the years, among them the Top New Female Vocalist award from the Academy of Country Music (ACM) in 1972, the Female Vocalist of the Year award from the Country Music Association in 1991, and the Cliffie Stone Pioneer Award from the ACM in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Tanya Tucker's body of work is replete with poignant and inspirational songs of love and triumph, as well as some songs that are flat-out entertaining; and

WHEREAS, her discography boasts over thirty albums, ten No. 1 singles, and numerous top-forty singles; and

WHEREAS, a versatile talent, Ms. Tucker played the lead role in the television movie *Follow That Car* in 1980 and starred, alongside Jan-Michael Vincent, Kim Basinger, and Daryl Hannah, in *Hard Country* the following year; in 1997, she released her autobiography, *Nickel Dreams: My Life*; and

WHEREAS, regarded as one of the best country music artists of all time, Tanya Tucker has been an inspiration to many who would follow in her footsteps; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Tucker's ever-growing legacy is one that lands her firmly among the pantheon of country music greats; and

WHEREAS, her career continues to grow as she tours and performs worldwide, just recently receiving a resounding welcome from the 20,000 fans at Bridgestone Arena as she paid tribute to the legendary Merle Haggard, and she is wholly deserving of esteem and recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and honor Tanya Tucker for her illustrious career in country music, extending our sincere best wishes for much success and happiness in all her 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.

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ADOPTED: April 27, 2017

RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

BETH HARWELL, *SPEAKER*
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 3rd **day of** May **2017**

BILL HASLAM, *GOVERNOR*