



State of Tennessee

SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 8

By Representative Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jonathan M. Metzl upon receiving the 2020 Robert F. Kennedy Book Award.

WHEREAS, we are proud to recognize those Tennesseans who have received significant acclaim for their contributions to the written word; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jonathan M. Metzl, whose book *Dying of Whiteness: How the Politics of Racial Resentment Is Killing America's Heartland* was recently named the 2020 winner of the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award; and

WHEREAS, established in 1980 with the proceeds of the best-selling biography *Robert Kennedy and His Times*, written by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award recognizes one book annually that exemplifies Mr. Kennedy's values, concerns, and legacy; and

WHEREAS, published in 2019, *Dying of Whiteness* is the result of Mr. Metzl's quest to understand the health implications of "backlash governance"; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan Metzl is the Frederick B. Rentschler II Professor of Sociology and Psychiatry and director of the Department of Medicine, Health and Society at Vanderbilt University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Metzl received his M.D. from the University of Missouri and his Master of Arts degree in Humanities/Poetics from Stanford University, where he also completed his psychiatric internship and residency; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Metzl received his Doctor of Philosophy degree in American culture from the University of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Dr. Metzl has been awarded the 2020 APA Benjamin Rush Award for Scholarship and a 2008 Guggenheim fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Metzl has written extensively for medical, psychiatric, and popular publications about some of the most pressing issues facing America and the world; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Metzl's other books include *The Protest Psychosis*, *Prozac on the Couch*, and *Against Health*; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we recognize Jonathan Metzl for his professional excellence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Jonathan M. Metzl upon receiving the 2020 Robert F. Kennedy Book Award and extend to him 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.

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ADOPTED: August 12, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Sexton', is written over a horizontal line.

CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES