THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10

By Representatives Littleton, Curcio
and
Senator Roberts

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly commend those longstanding organizations that work to promote the commercial success of their communities and this State; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy organization is the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, the Chamber was formed on December 12, 1921, when several community leaders came together in response to the early twentieth-century exodus of workers from the county, which was once the economically flourishing iron capital of the South, in order to seek more enticing, higher paying jobs in Northern states; and

WHEREAS, the founders of the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce sought to bring about social and civic betterment and an improvement of economic conditions through upgraded marketing facilities, increased and enhanced transportation, expanded manufacturing, and better relations between those in the farming and business sectors; and

WHEREAS, the early years of the Chamber were resoundingly productive, as the organization successfully negotiated the relocation of the American Cigar Factory to Dickson, thus employing more than 300 women; also during this time, the Chamber worked with local farmers to increase tobacco production and open a new tobacco market for agriculturalists; and

WHEREAS, during the changing years of the mid-twentieth century, the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce helped facilitate a peaceful transition to an integrated society as an early supporter of desegregating Dickson County schools; this support had the added benefit of keeping businesses throughout the county open and continually growing; and

WHEREAS, by the 1960s, the Dickson County Industrial Sector was founded as the Chamber of Commerce helped to ensure the growth of Tennsco Corp and Schrader Automotive Products, creating a surplus of jobs, while simultaneously ensuring that crop production and sales led to Dickson County agriculture reaching a value of $10 million; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, the Chamber began focusing on small business in Dickson County and held its first Chamber ribbon cuttings, business afterhours, morning coffee meetings, and other networking events; and

WHEREAS, with the economy soaring into the twenty-first century, the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce enjoyed continual growth and success during the 1990s and 2000s, during which time the county unemployment rate remained lower than the national average; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chamber quickly joined with city and county governments, partnered with major industries, and pooled its resources to create relief grants, which served as a lifeline for, and ultimately saved, many local businesses; and

WHEREAS, today, the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce remains the primary resource for business and the catalyst for community development in Dickson County, with more than 450 members and nearly thirty separate industries, the Chamber continues to hold
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true to its founding principles of "[Bringing] about social betterment, civic improvement, and an improvement of the economic conditions of our town and county"; and

WHEREAS, during this, the Chamber's centennial year, the Clement Railroad Hotel Museum in Dickson is hosting the temporary exhibit *Growth, Industry, and Agriculture: 100 Years of the Chamber*, a fine record of and testament to the indelible impact the organization has had on the economy and citizens of Dickson County; and

WHEREAS, in a century of operation, the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce has been the foundation of the county's business community and has worked to foster a thriving economy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce and extend to the Chamber, its members, and its partners our best wishes for continued success in all 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 and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.
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ADOPTED: October 29, 2021

CAMERON Sexton, Speaker
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

randy mcnally
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 10th day of November 2021

BILL LEE, GOVERNOR