A RESOLUTION to recognize M. Denis "Pete" Peterson on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, M. Denis "Pete" Peterson is one such estimable person who has served for more than sixteen years as city manager of Johnson City, from which position he will retire at the end of this year; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished thirty-one-year career with the City of Johnson City, Pete Peterson has provided solid leadership and thoughtful guidance for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, City Manager Peterson graduated from Science Hill High School in 1975 and earned a bachelor's degree in construction engineering technology from East Tennessee State University (ETSU) in 1987; and

WHEREAS, he began his career with the City of Johnson City in 1991 as a development specialist and was named assistant city manager in 1995; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Pete Peterson received a Master of City Management degree from ETSU and became interim city manager of Johnson City; in 2005, he advanced to the position of city manager; and

WHEREAS, during City Manager Peterson's exemplary tenure, Johnson City has achieved an AA bond rating and grown its fund balance from $2 million to $35 million while maintaining the lowest property tax rate in the region; and

WHEREAS, his tireless efforts on behalf of Johnson City played a significant role in numerous civic developments, including the revitalization of downtown, where flood mitigation and the addition of Founders Park have brought scores of people and new business to the city center; recreation offerings have multiplied through the development of Civitan Park, Memorial Park Community Center, the Rotary Park's inclusive playground and splash pad, and Tennessee's longest rails-to-trails project, the Tweetsie Trail; and

WHEREAS, other highlights include the construction of a new Kermit Tipton Stadium at Science Hill High School and Freedom Hall Civic Center's $12 million renovation; and

WHEREAS, Johnson City was also one of the first and most significant donors to the establishment of the Gatton College of Pharmacy, and commissioners also voted to donate $8 million and land for the university's Performing Arts Center; and

WHEREAS, City Manager Peterson is a 2009 graduate of the University of Virginia's Senior Executive Institute and has served on the institute's advisory board; his leadership earned him 2010 City Manager of the Year honors from the Tennessee City Management Association as well as the Association of Leadership Programs Distinguished Leadership Award in 2015; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional, Pete Peterson is a member of the International City/County Managers Association and the Tennessee City Managers Association; he has served on the Tennessee Municipal League board of directors and as vice chairman of the University of Tennessee's Municipal Technical Services Advisory Board; and
WHEREAS, he has also served on the local Mountain States Health Alliance Washington County Board, Mountain States Health Alliance Niswonger Children's Hospital Executive Council, Emergency Medical Services Board, Washington County/Johnson City Economic Development Board, Washington County/Johnson City Animal Control Board and United Way of Washington County board of directors and as vice chairman of the Coalition for Better Schools; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, Pete Peterson enjoys the love and support he shares with his wife, Stacy, and their two children, Oliver and Ashley; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious tenure, City Manager Pete Peterson has carried out his responsibilities with diligence and integrity; his remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, a strong advocate for the citizens of Johnson City, Pete Peterson has compiled a singular record of success during his exemplary public service career, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend M. Denis "Pete" Peterson for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as city manager of Johnson City and extend to him our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

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.
THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22

October 29, 2021

RANDY M~LL Y
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL LEE, GOVERNOR