

# *State of Tennessee*

## **SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 57**

**By Senators Yager, Massey, Mr. Speaker McNally**

**and**

**Representatives Butler, Keisling, Fritts**

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Chris Whaley for his receipt of the Muddy Boot Award.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that the members of this General Assembly should acknowledge and applaud those community leaders who are wholly devoted to enhancing the quality of life for their fellow citizens and improving and enriching the place they all call home; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Chris Whaley, who was recently honored for his efforts to develop his community with the Muddy Boot Award from the East Tennessee Economic Council (ETEC); and

WHEREAS, the Muddy Boot Award was established nearly fifty years ago to honor individuals who have gone above the call of duty to make the community, the State of Tennessee, and the nation a better place to live and work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whaley has been the president of Roane State Community College for the past ten years and has dedicated his life to the pursuit of educating young minds and leading within his community; and

WHEREAS, his father, Lowell Whaley, worked at the college since its beginnings, and Chris Whaley began his postsecondary studies at Roane State as well, earning the highest student award during his stay; and

WHEREAS, he went on to study at Middle Tennessee State University and ultimately earned his law degree at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, after three years of private law practice, Mr. Whaley realized his calling to form the minds of future leaders and took a position in 1997 as program director of the A.A.S. Paralegal Studies program at Roane State; and

WHEREAS, he continued to show forth valiant effort in his work, and he advanced through the administration of the college from dean of social science, business and education in 2002, to vice president of the college in 2010, and finally to becoming Roane State's fifth president in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whaley utilized his vast and varied experiences to better the programs that Roane State offers, putting more emphasis on apprenticeship programs to meet regional labor needs and seeking the input of local industry leaders to better suit the college's curriculum for student success in East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, above and beyond the call of duty, he works outside of the classroom and workplace to further his regional home, and he has served as chair of the East Tennessee Economic Council, Roane Alliance, and TVC Community College Consortium and as District Chair Catoosa District for the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whaley, ever the committed contributor, also participates as a member of several other civic organizations, including the chambers of commerce in Anderson and Roane counties; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whaley is a proven leader in his community who is passionate about making East Tennessee a better place for all residents, and it is most fitting that he be honored; now, therefore,


BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize Chris Whaley upon his receipt of the Muddy Boot Award from the East Tennessee Economic Council, extending our gratitude for his commitment to educational efforts and our best wishes for his continued success.

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: February 2, 2023

  
RANDY McNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023

  
BILL LEE, GOVERNOR