



State of Tennessee

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 978

By Representative Evans

and

Senator Roberts

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Sam and Barbara Freeman on the celebration of their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 1962, Sam and Barbara Freeman were joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Dillard Freeman was born on February 2, 1943, to Madgie Christine Davidson Dillard and William James Dillard; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Warren Freeman was born on April 26, 1936, to Ekie Byzet Freeman and Samuel L. Freeman; and

WHEREAS, Barbara's family moved to Gallatin during her senior year of high school, but she lived with her aunt so that she could stay in Greenbrier and graduate from Greenbrier High School; and

WHEREAS, one day, a friend pointed Sam out to Barbara and told her she should meet him; and

WHEREAS, they met at the annual Fourth of July picnic and went on two or three dates, but Barbara moved to Gallatin to be with her family and did not say anything to Sam about it, as they had only been on a few dates; and

WHEREAS, while Barbara was on a double-date with another man and her brother, Wesley, and his future wife, stopped at Wesley's house and she got a phone call letting her know that Sam had looked her up, at which time she promptly left her date, went to the house, and went out on a date with Sam, with whom she has been with ever since; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman dated from the fall of 1961 until they were married at Ebenezer Baptist Church on April 28, 1962; and

WHEREAS, the marriage nearly did not take place because Barbara's grandfather passed away only three days before the wedding; Barbara and Sam thought it might be best to postpone the wedding, but Barbara's mother encouraged the couple to proceed; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced three children, Stephen Henry Freeman, who died in infancy in 1967; Darryl Lewis Freeman (Joan), and Jonathan Ray Freeman (Brea); eight grandchildren, Racheal Freeman Sondrn, Katey Freeman Stout, Heather Freeman, Anna Freeman, Isaac Freeman, Luke Freeman, Mary Freeman, and Joshua Freeman; and three great-grandchildren, Coden Sondrn, Eli Stout, and Zeke Stout; and

WHEREAS, Sam and Barbara have been active and devout members of Ebenezer Baptist Church for sixty years. Sam has served as a Sunday School Secretary for ten years and as a Trustee for more than twenty years, and Barbara has served on the last three pastor search committees and has been a Sunday School teacher for more than forty years; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have been highly respected citizens of their community for many years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

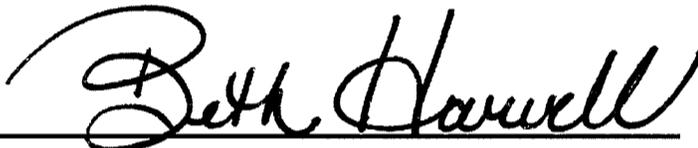
WHEREAS, marriages such as the Freemans' are truly the foundation upon which our society is built and serve as a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Sam and Barbara Freeman on the celebration of their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

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 23, 2012



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 26th day of April 2012



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR