

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. George Fisher of Austin Peay State University.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. George Fisher; and

WHEREAS, Dr. George Fisher, known as “Coach,” and mentor to many, was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher served with acumen and alacrity as an instructor, coach, and athletic director at Austin Peay State University (APSU), in which positions he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born in 1924 in Greenbrier, Dr. Fisher attended Austin Peay State University in the 1940s and received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from APSU in 1952 and 1959, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher was a star student athlete at APSU, being the first recipient of the Joy Award, which recognizes the most valuable senior athlete; served as captain of the football team and basketball team; and earned All-Volunteer Athletic Conference honors for two seasons; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher began his coaching and teaching career in Corpus Christi, Texas, serving with the Texas school system for six years; and

WHEREAS, he served as assistant football coach at APSU as well as head golf coach, freshman basketball coach, head coach of the track team, and head basketball coach, before being named the athletic director in 1972; and

WHEREAS, he was chosen as the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) Coach of the Year in 1967, was inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame in 1988, was part of the first APSU Athletics Hall of Fame class in 1978, and became chairman of APSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1993; and

WHEREAS, Dr. George Fisher leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. George Fisher, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Fisher.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.