

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 15

By Hemmer

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in paying tribute to the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, an organization committed to making its community a better place to live by supporting local programs that help uplift and empower others through education; and

WHEREAS, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation recently announced its largest one-day literacy grant donation, totaling more than \$1.9 million to Middle Tennessee organizations; and

WHEREAS, among the many organizations generously supported by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation is the Nashville Public Library Foundation, a community of leaders, learners, and innovative achievers dedicated to supporting and empowering the Nashville Public Library; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty-six years, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has invested in a variety of local programs, annually awarding funds to nonprofit organizations, schools, and libraries within a fifteen-mile radius of a Dollar General store or distribution center to support adult, family, summer, and youth literacy programs; and

WHEREAS, through partnerships with national literacy organizations such as the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy, XPRIZE Foundation, and the American Libraries Association, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation supports organizations that increase access to educational programming, stimulate and enable innovation in the delivery of educational instruction, and inspire a love of reading; and

WHEREAS, Dollar General's commitment to literacy and education is routed through the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and inspired by the company's cofounder J.L. Turner, who had only a third-grade education and was functionally illiterate after dropping out of school to

support his family; his grandson and former CEO, Cal Turner, Jr., founded the Dollar General Literacy Foundation in 1993; and

WHEREAS, since its establishment, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$182 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 11 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy, a general education diploma, continued education, or English proficiency; and

WHEREAS, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation is wholly dedicated to serving the needs of our youth and their families through philanthropic partnerships and is deserving of our praise and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize the staff and board of directors of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and its community partners and supporters for their many generous and compassionate contributions to the greater Nashville and Middle Tennessee community and wish them every continued success in their 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.