

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 959**

**By Representatives Armstrong, Hill, Kevin Brooks, Harry Brooks, Dunn,  
Hawk**

**and**

**Senators Burks, Marrero, Herron, Ford**

A RESOLUTION relative to the public higher education institutions of Tennessee and their acceptance of certain coursework and credits.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the value to the State and its citizenry of a college-educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the importance of increasing the post-secondary graduation rates of Tennessee's citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes that there exists a significant number of citizens that have accumulated completed college-level coursework toward earning a degree; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes that some coursework may retain its validity for many years following completion; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly also appreciates that technology and other factors cause subject area knowledge to change rapidly and in some instances become dated; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly also recognizes the authority and purview of colleges and universities to determine the length of time and the validity of coursework content based on current information, findings and research, especially in graduate-level programs; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly further recognizes that it is in the best social, economic, and educational interests of the State to permit institutions to determine the requirements in awarding academic credits and conferring degrees; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the institutions of the University of Tennessee system and the Tennessee Board of Regents system shall accommodate the efforts of students who are beyond traditional college age to complete a college degree by accepting completed coursework and credits to the extent consistent with the institution's academic standards.

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

**ADOPTED: May 24, 2010**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kent Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent dot over the 'i' in "Williams".

KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Ramsey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'R'.

RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

**APPROVED: June 3, 2010**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Bredeesen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'P'.

PHIL BREDEESEN, GOVERNOR