

# RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION OF THE  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
KNOXVILLE REQUESTING  
THAT HB 0063, HB 0064, AND HB  
0065 BE OPPOSED BY  
MEMBERS OF THE KNOX  
COUNTY DELEGATION.**

**RESOLUTION NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUESTED BY:** Councilmembers Parker

**PREPARED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS AN EMERGENCY  
MEASURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MINUTE BOOK:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PAGE** \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, on Monday, April 3, 2023, Reps. Bud Hulsey, Gino Bulso, and Andrew Farmer filed House Resolutions 0063, 0064, and 0065 to expel Reps. Gloria Johnson, Justin Pearson, and Justin Jones from their seats as members of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Thirteenth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee for engaging in disorderly behavior and breaking House rules on March 30, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the House is scheduled to vote on the expulsion of all three members on Thursday, April 5, 2023, giving the duly elected representatives and their constituents, including voters of the city of Knoxville, minimal time to prepare; and

**WHEREAS**, while Article II, Section 12 of the Tennessee Constitution grants the House of Representatives of the State of Tennessee the authority to expel a member, with the concurrence of two-third of its membership, expulsion is an extreme measure that is used very infrequently in our state and our country because it denies voters of representation by the people they elect; and

**WHEREAS**, all three representatives were duly elected by their constituents with Representative Gloria Johnson earning 58% of the vote from Knoxville voters after her district was redistricted, requiring her to run in one of Tennessee's newly formed districts; and

**WHEREAS**, the expulsion of Representative Gloria Johnson would likely result in a special election that would present a cost to Knox County tax payers, which include city of Knoxville residents, additional work for the Election Commission and potentially confusion for city voters during a city election, and could ultimately result in Representative Johnson's

re-election; and

**WHEREAS**, a vote to expel Reps. Johnson, Jones, and Pearson would reflect adversely upon the integrity and dignity of the House of Representatives of the State of Tennessee, would place a cloud upon the action of the Tennessee state legislature, and would be inconsistent with the bipartisan approach to expulsion that the body has historically followed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE:**

**SECTION 1:** The Council of the City of Knoxville as the elected representatives of the people of Knoxville encourages members of the Knox County delegation to the General Assembly to oppose HB 0063, HB 0064, and HB 0065.

**SECTION 2:** The Council of the City of Knoxville as the elected representatives of the people of Knoxville continue to encourage the General Assembly by its acts and deeds to uphold the decisions made by vote of the people of Knoxville as expressed in a previous resolution passed unanimously by Council.

**SECTION 3:** The Council of the City of Knoxville as the elected representatives of the people of Knoxville also continue to encourage the General Assembly, as expressed in a previous resolution, to take immediate action to address gun violence as the public health crisis it is and listen to the duly elected representatives who have been sent to Nashville to uplift these priorities.

**SECTION 4:** Upon adoption, the City Recorder is hereby respectfully requested and directed to forward a true and correct copy of this Resolution to the state legislators representing the residents of the City of Knoxville to apprise them of City Council's respectful request.

**SECTION 5:** This Resolution shall take effect from and after its passage, the welfare of the City requiring it.

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Presiding Officer of the Council

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City Recorder