

## House Resolution 115

By: Representatives Randall of the 127<sup>th</sup>, Reichert of the 126<sup>th</sup>, Birdsong of the 123<sup>rd</sup>, Graves of the 125<sup>th</sup> and Lucas of the 124<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Little Richard; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Little Richard—the originator, the emancipator, the architect of rock and roll—  
3 exploded into the American consciousness in the mid-50's and singlehandedly laid the  
4 foundation and established the rules for a new type of music called "rock and roll"; and

5 WHEREAS, Richard Wayne Penniman, better known as Little Richard, was born and raised  
6 in Macon, Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, as a child he sang in the church choir and, while washing dishes in a Greyhound  
8 bus station, he sent a demo to Specialty Records. The song, "Tutti Frutti," was his catalyst  
9 for success and led to an uninterrupted run of smash hits; and

10 WHEREAS, as a result of such hits as "Tutti Frutti," "Long Tall Sally," "Rip It Up,"  
11 "Lucille," "Jenny Jenny," "Keep a Knockin," "Good Golly, Miss Molly," and "Ooh, My  
12 Soul," by 1968, Little Richard had sold over 32 million records internationally; and

13 WHEREAS, after a self-imposed hiatus, he came back in 1985 with rave reviews for a  
14 memorable appearance in the boxoffice smash "Down and Out in Beverly Hills," which also  
15 launched his hit single, "Great Gosh A Mighty"; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1986, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and began a  
17 nonstop series of performances and appearances, including live concerts worldwide,  
18 recording projects, television, film, soundtracks, and commercials; and

19 WHEREAS, his performance of a rock and roll version of the children's tune "Itsy Bitsy  
20 Spider" was a standout track on the star-studded Disney Records' benefit album, For Our  
21 Children, which went gold and earned millions for the Pediatric AIDS Foundation; and

1 WHEREAS, Little Richard made another Disney album, Shake It All About, featuring  
2 children's songs redone in his own inimitable style, and as a result of these projects and guest  
3 appearances on children's shows, he garnered a whole new generation of young fans; and

4 WHEREAS, he was honored with a star on the world-renowned Hollywood Walk of Fame  
5 in 1990 and soon afterward returned to his hometown of Macon, Georgia, for the unveiling  
6 of "Little Richard Penniman Boulevard"; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1993, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National  
8 Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, and, in 1994, he was awarded the Rhythm &  
9 Blues Foundation's prestigious Pioneer Award; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1997, in recognition of his contributions to music history, Little Richard was  
11 presented with the American Music Award's distinguished Award of Merit.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
13 the members of this body take great pride in commending one of this state's most outstanding  
14 citizens, Little Richard, for his many accomplishments and especially for spreading joy and  
15 delighting people worldwide with his wonderful music and entertainment.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
17 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Little Richard.