

House Resolution 1611

By: Representatives Smith of the 169th, Mosley of the 171st and Boggs of the 168th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Blackshear High School FFA String Band and honoring S. V. Lee, Gene
2 Davis, and Tony Cason and inviting them to appear before the House of Representatives; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Blackshear High School FFA String Band is a legendary band that spawned
5 a musical legacy that spanned two decades, the achievements of which have been
6 memorialized forever in the archives of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame; and

7 WHEREAS, the Blackshear FFA String Band was first assembled in 1954, and owes its
8 phenomenal success to the dedicated leadership of a South Georgia gentleman by the name
9 of S. V. Lee, who served as the band's founder and advisor; and

10 WHEREAS, the band's supremely talented members have included such noteworthy
11 musicians as Gene Davis and Tony Cason, who are recognized as two of the most talented
12 musical artists ever produced by the South; and

13

14 WHEREAS, the band was a perennial winner in the FFA competition, taking nine district
15 championships and five state championships; and

16 WHEREAS, Gene Davis led the band to its first state championship in 1955, and from 1970
17 to 1973, the band, led by Tony Cason, won four consecutive state championships; and

18 WHEREAS, not only did S. V. Lee train the members of the band musically, he helped to
19 instill in them the qualities necessary for success, directly influencing the achievements of
20 the band members in later years; and

21 WHEREAS, Gene Davis' band, Borderline, won the True Value/Coca-Cola state
22 championship for Best Band in Georgia and was highly recognized in national competitions;
23 and

1 WHEREAS, Tony Cason's band Alibi was featured on the Nashville Network as part of the
2 national competition known as the Charlie Daniels' Best Band in the Land Contest and won
3 first place; and

4 WHEREAS, all of the members who comprised the Blackshear High School FFA String
5 Band over the course of its 20 year history were talented, dedicated musicians whose
6 individual contributions ensured the band's success and are highly worthy of commendation.

7 WHEREAS, a display in the Georgia Music Hall of Fame archives is the latest in a long
8 series of honors for the string band which entertained politicians, community leaders, and a
9 variety of audiences all across the state; and

10 WHEREAS, S. V. Lee, Gene Davis, and Tony Cason recently presented the band's pictures
11 and artifacts for preservation in the Hall of Fame museum's archives signifying its honored
12 placed in history; and

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
14 the members of this body recognize the Blackshear High School FFA String Band, commend
15 all of the members of the band for their enduring musical legacy, especially Gene Davis and
16 Tony Cason, and honor the band's founder and leader, S. V. Lee.

17 BE IT FURTHER recognized that S. V. Lee, Gene Davis, and Tony Cason are invited to
18 appear before the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the
19 Speaker.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
21 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to S. V. Lee, Gene Davis, and
22 Tony Cason.