

## House Resolution 1455

By: Representatives McCall of the 30<sup>th</sup>, Roberts of the 154<sup>th</sup>, Levitas of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Anderson of the 117<sup>th</sup>, Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Commissioner Tommy Irvin for his outstanding service to the  
2 State of Georgia and inviting him to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for  
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Commissioner Tommy Irvin has long been recognized by the citizens of this  
5 state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to  
6 Georgia's agriculture; and

7 WHEREAS, appointed by Governor Lester Maddox, he began his service as Georgia's  
8 Commissioner of Agriculture in 1969, a position he has been reelected to for ten straight  
9 terms, making him the longest serving Commissioner of Agriculture in the United States and  
10 the longest serving state-wide elected official in Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, during his tenure as Commissioner of Agriculture, he has served as an advocate  
12 for the agriculture industry in Georgia and improved the lives of countless Georgians through  
13 numerous initiatives; and

14 WHEREAS, Commissioner Irvin is nationally recognized as a leader in agricultural relations  
15 around the world, leading trips around the globe to procure contracts to sell Georgia  
16 agricultural products to other nations; and

17 WHEREAS, Commissioner Irvin's leadership in the field of agriculture has been nationally  
18 recognized, as he is the founder and two-term president of the Southern United States Trade  
19 Association, he is a founding member of the Southern Association of State Departments of  
20 Agriculture, and he stands as the only Georgian to serve as president of the National  
21 Association of State Departments of Agriculture; and

22 WHEREAS, his diligence and commitment on behalf of Georgia citizens have been  
23 recognized with awards such as the Richard B. Russell Public Service Award and the 2005  
24 Jefferson Jackson Day HOPE Award; and

25 WHEREAS, Commissioner Irvin's decades of selfless service to the State of Georgia has  
26 made a lasting impression which will be felt for many years to come.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body recognize Commissioner Tommy Irvin for his more than five  
29 decades of effective, efficient, and selfless public service to the State of Georgia, commend  
30 his remarkable contributions to the field of agriculture, and invite him to be recognized by  
31 the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the  
32 House of Representatives.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
34 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Commissioner Tommy  
35 Irvin.