

House Resolution 1455

By: Representatives McCall of the 30th, Roberts of the 154th, Levitas of the 82nd, Anderson of the 117th, Benton of the 31st, 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.