

House Resolution 146

By: Representatives Benton of the 31st and England of the 108th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and recognizing the Hoschton Fall Festival Committee and the citizens of
2 Hoschton, Georgia, for setting a world record for the Most Scarecrows in One Location; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Mayor Bill Copenhaver and lifelong resident Robbie Bettis cochaired the
5 Hoschton Fall Festival Committee composed of Chuck Cope, Chris Hoffman, Theresa
6 Kenerly, Leah Nelson, Nancy Rhodes, John Schulte, Richard Shepherd, Kristen Smith, Lisa
7 Stovall, Ray Vaughn, Tom Walden, and Mark Williams; and

8 WHEREAS, the Hoschton Fall Festival Committee announced on May 12, 2008, that the city
9 would be attempting to earn a world record for the most scarecrows in one location to be
10 completed in time for the Fall Festival; and

11 WHEREAS, the committee set a goal to have 4,000 scarecrows within the city limits of
12 Hoschton, Georgia, on September 1, 2008, and this goal was surpassed with an amazing
13 5,441 scarecrows, earning the city a world record from the World Records Academy; and

14 WHEREAS, the scarecrow count of 5,441 was proudly verified by John Oxendine, State
15 Insurance Commissioner, and Shane Short, Executive Director of the Jackson County
16 Chamber of Commerce; and

17 WHEREAS, the committee worked valiantly advertising the Hoschton Fall Festival of
18 September 26 and 27, 2008, which resulted in a new record for attendance with
19 approximately 25,000 attendees; and

20 WHEREAS, the citizens of Hoschton, Georgia, and the surrounding area, including mayors
21 from five other cities in Jackson County, came together with unbelievable community spirit
22 to produce a plethora of scarecrows; and

23 WHEREAS, the local businesses, churches, organizations, schools, farms, and subdivisions
24 joined in the effort, gathering to make and display the scarecrows; and

25 WHEREAS, the Hoshton Women's Civic Club, Hoshton First Baptist Church, Georgia
26 Kids Academy, Deer Creek Farms Subdivision, and Publix received recognition as having
27 the most scarecrows within their category; and

28 WHEREAS, the local nonprofit organization known as Driving Magic, Inc., a group
29 providing therapeutic and recreational equine-assisted activities for children and adults with
30 developmental or physical disabilities or both, focusing on therapeutic carriage driving and
31 horsemanship programs for both ambulatory participants and those needing wheelchair
32 accessibility, received \$1 for each of the first 1,000 scarecrows from Publix; and

33 WHEREAS, the scarecrows received local, state, national, and international media coverage
34 with newspapers, radios, magazines, Internet sites, and television; and

35 WHEREAS, the scarecrows brought tourism to the City of Hoshton, the County of Jackson,
36 and the State of Georgia with thousands of photos and videos made by thousands of people
37 visiting the area to attend the festival, who now know the correct way to pronounce
38 "Hoshton."

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body commend the Hoshton Fall Festival Committee on its world
41 record with the Most Scarecrows in One Location, its worldwide recognition through media
42 coverage, and the enormous contribution this effort made to the local economy.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Mayor of Hoshton, Bill
45 Copenhaver.