

## House Resolution 246

By: Representatives Heard of the 114<sup>th</sup>, McKillip of the 115<sup>th</sup>, Kaiser of the 59<sup>th</sup>, Parent of the 81<sup>st</sup>, Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the band Widespread Panic and inviting them to be  
2 recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the band Widespread Panic formed 25 years ago in the cultural Mecca of the  
4 South – Athens, Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, a member of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame, Widespread Panic has sold  
6 millions of albums, had over six million song files downloaded through  
7 LiveWidespreadPanic.com, and has consistently placed in the top 50 of best grossing tours;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, nationally renowned for their powerful live performances, Widespread Panic  
10 has sold out venues from coast to coast in record numbers, including 15 shows at Philips  
11 Arena in Atlanta, 17 shows at Oak Mountain Amphitheater in Alabama, and 35 shows at Red  
12 Rocks Amphitheater in Colorado; and

13 WHEREAS, Widespread Panic set a single day attendance record of 63,000 at a performance  
14 in New Orleans and played to crowded streets of 100,000 fans in Athens, Georgia, for their  
15 hit *Light Fuse, Get Away* CD release party; and

16 WHEREAS, the group has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support high school  
17 music programs across the State of Georgia with the purchase of instruments and computer  
18 music labs through their charity, Tunes for Tots, A Benefit for the Arts; and

19 WHEREAS, Widespread Panic has generously contributed time, effort, and art to charities  
20 benefitting local food banks through Panic Fans for Food that collected over 15 tons of food  
21 in 28 cities, the Amnesty International Campaign to Save Darfur, and the Make It Right  
22 Foundation of New Orleans for post-Katrina recovery efforts; and

23 WHEREAS, Widespread Panic's generosity has inspired the band's fans, affectionately  
24 known as Spreadheads, to have fun and help out by spearheading a house of their own in the  
25 post-Katrina recovery efforts in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans called "The House  
26 that Widespread Panic Fans Built"; and

27 WHEREAS, the seven members of Widespread Panic, John Bell, Dave Schools, Todd  
28 Nance, Domingo Ortiz, John Hermann, Jimmy Herring, and the late Michael Houser are  
29 known for their gracious hearts, soulful lyrical story telling, and extraordinary musical  
30 improvisation; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the successful music career and  
32 community contributions of this Georgia band be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 the members of this body recognize Widespread Panic for 25 years of incredible music,  
35 commend their commitment to improving the lives of others, and invite them to be  
36 recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the  
37 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
39 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Widespread Panic.