

Senate Resolution 145

By: Senators Cowsert of the 46th, Seabaugh of the 28th, Goggans of the 7th and Staton of the 18th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the band Widespread Panic; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the band Widespread Panic formed 25 years ago in the cultural Mecca of the
3 South – Athens, Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, a member of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame, Widespread Panic has sold
5 millions of albums, had over six million song files downloaded through
6 LiveWidespreadPanic.com, and has consistently placed in the top 50 of best grossing tours;
7 and
- 8 WHEREAS, nationally renowned for their powerful live performances, Widespread Panic
9 has sold out venues from coast to coast in record numbers, including 15 shows at Philips
10 Arena in Atlanta, 17 shows at Oak Mountain Amphitheater in Alabama, and 35 shows at Red
11 Rocks Amphitheater in Colorado; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Widespread Panic set a single day attendance record of 63,000 at a performance
13 in New Orleans and played to crowded streets of 100,000 fans in Athens, Georgia, for their
14 hit *Light Fuse, Get Away* CD release party; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the group has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support high school
16 music programs across the State of Georgia with the purchase of instruments and computer
17 music labs through their charity, Tunes for Tots, A Benefit for the Arts; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Widespread Panic has generously contributed time, effort, and art to charities
19 benefitting local food banks through Panic Fans for Food that collected over 15 tons of food
20 in 28 cities, the Amnesty International Campaign to Save Darfur, and the Make It Right
21 Foundation of New Orleans for post-Katrina recovery efforts; and

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

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

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

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 recognize Widespread Panic for 25 years of incredible music and commend their
34 commitment to improving the lives of others.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Widespread Panic.