

Senate Resolution 459

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Davenport of the 44th, James of the 35th, Butler of the 55th, Fort of the 39th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Harlon E. Joye; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Harlon E. Joye has earned a well-deserved reputation for professionalism
3 and high quality journalism with his work in cofounding and managing WRFG and his
4 long-time support of free, independent radio; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Joye was born in Orangeburg, South Carolina; earned a bachelor's degree
6 from the University of Michigan, where he held leadership positions in student co-ops; and
7 earned a master's degree from the New School for Social Research; and

8 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
9 States Army, and his interest in radio began while working with Pacifica station WBAI in
10 New York City where he presented a series of debates on Cuba and documentaries on radical
11 groups; and

12 WHEREAS, as an assistant professor of sociology at Atlanta University, he interviewed
13 white southern students in Civil Rights and anti-war movements across the South between
14 the 1960's and 1980's; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Joye and his wife teamed up with John and Beth Miller to establish Radio
16 Free Georgia, and in 1972 he cofounded and served as the first station manager at WRFG;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, during his tenure with WRFG, Mr. Joye has served as the station's president of
19 the board of directors, vice president, secretary, and treasurer and produced notable shows
20 that include *Fox's Minstrel Show*, *Living Atlanta*, *An Atlanta Tragedy: the Lynching of Leo*
21 *Frank*, *The 1906 Atlanta Race Riot*, *All Hell Broke Loose in Orangeburg*, and *Plowed*
22 *Under: the Plight of Georgia's Small Farmers*; and

23 WHEREAS, he has served as an equal opportunity specialist for the Office of Civil Rights
24 and Georgia's state manager for the News Election Service; and

25 WHEREAS, a community leader in Atlanta, Mr. Joye has served as a community
26 organization specialist with Economic Opportunity Atlanta, served as vice president for
27 Atlanta Labor Council, is a member of the City of Atlanta's Civil Service Board, and has
28 worked for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local 1644
29 since 1983; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of
31 this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 recognize Mr. Harlon E. Joye for decades of quality radio programming and commend him
34 for his years of dedicated service to journalism, the public, and independent radio.

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 Mr. Harlon E. Joye.