

## House Resolution 1566

By: Representatives Dukes of the 150<sup>th</sup>, Heard of the 114<sup>th</sup>, Smyre of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Randall of the 138<sup>th</sup>, Fullerton of the 151<sup>st</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the 33rd anniversary of the designation of "Georgia On My  
2 Mind" as the official song of Georgia and inviting Sheila Raye Charles and her siblings to  
3 be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, on March 7, 1979, Ray Charles made an appearance to perform "Georgia On  
5 My Mind" on the floor of the House of Representatives; and

6 WHEREAS, the song describes a Georgian's love for his state, and its beautiful melody and  
7 lyrics have given the song worldwide appeal; and

8 WHEREAS, the rendition, as recorded by Albany, Georgia born Ray Charles, was first  
9 recorded by him in 1958 and has since been greatly enjoyed by music lovers throughout the  
10 world; and

11 WHEREAS, Ray Charles recorded nearly 500 songs in his illustrious career, comprising  
12 more than 40 albums and CDs, but none were more touching and important to the State of  
13 Georgia than "Georgia On My Mind"; and

14 WHEREAS, it has been recorded by his daughter, Sheila Raye, and some of her siblings,  
15 who are performers and following in their father's musical greatness; and

16 WHEREAS, Ray Charles' children are producing and orchestrating a very personal tribute  
17 to their father entitled *Remembering Ray*, which will preview in Albany and Atlanta; and

18 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to recognize the value of the song to the State  
19 of Georgia and to recognize the Honorable John White, who presented Ray Charles and the  
20 song to the Joint Session of the General Assembly; and

21 WHEREAS, the acts of kindness and recognition of Ray Charles by the State of Georgia  
22 have inspired three of his children to make Georgia their new home.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 the members of this body recognize the 33rd anniversary of the designation of "Georgia On  
25 My Mind" as the official song of Georgia and Ray Charles' performance of it on the floor of  
26 the House of Representatives and invite Sheila Raye Charles and her siblings to be  
27 recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time designated by the Speaker of  
28 the House of Representatives.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
30 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Sheila Raye Charles and her  
31 siblings.