

House Resolution 1567

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

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Sheila Raye Charles and inviting her and her family to be recognized by the
2 House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the daughter of the legendary world famous singer and performer Ray Charles,
4 Sheila Raye Charles creates her own distinct sound while delivering her intensely inspiring
5 message of hope and love; and

6 WHEREAS, as a talented singer and songwriter, she has found her voice in acoustic jazz and
7 R&B with lyrics that deliver the personal journey of her own life and relationship with her
8 father; and

9 WHEREAS, at the age of 19, with great courage, she defied her father's wishes and began
10 to pursue music, and after demonstrating her commitment and talent, her father invited her
11 and her band to his studio and personally produced several of their songs; and

12 WHEREAS, her music career waned as she gathered a lifetime of experiences through a
13 series of life-changing events, which today give great meaning and countenance to her music;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Sheila Raye is often called upon to perform at jazz festivals, embassy parties,
16 clubs, and places of worship to provide renditions of her father's best known songs, such as
17 "America the Beautiful," "Hit the Road Jack," and "Georgia on My Mind"; and

18 WHEREAS, her publication of *Behind the Shades* is an insight into her life and path to God;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, she and her siblings are developing a production titled *Remembering Ray*, a
21 personal tribute to their father, which will preview in his home town of Albany, Atlanta, and
22 Columbia, South Carolina; and

23 WHEREAS, between 2009 and 2010 Sheila Raye lectured and performed in 95 cities across
24 America in civic arenas, churches, high schools, colleges, jails, and prisons and has
25 performed in Japan and the Czech Republic; and

26 WHEREAS, on December 7, 2007, Sheila Raye and her brother unveiled the world's only
27 life-sized statue of their father at the Ray Charles Plaza in Albany, Georgia; and

28 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the impressive career of this
29 distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body commend Sheila Raye Charles for her many accomplishments in
32 the music industry and invite her and her family to be recognized by the House of
33 Representatives at a date and time designated by the Speaker of the House of
34 Representatives.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Sheila Raye Charles.