

1 HJR143
2 218593-1
3 By Representatives Faulkner and Rogers
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 09-MAR-22

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8 COMMENDING THE HOMEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PATRIOT MARCHING
9 BAND AND DIRECTOR CHRIS COOPER AND DECLARING THEM TO BE
10 MUSICAL AMBASSADORS FOR THE STATE OF ALABAMA.
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12 WHEREAS, the Homewood High School Patriot Marching
13 Band learned on October 18, 2019, that the band was invited to
14 march in the Rose Parade, held annually on New Year's Day
15 prior to the legendary Rose Bowl game in Pasadena, California;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, although the Patriot Band had played the
18 Rose Parade four previous times, in 1984, 2003, 2009, and
19 2014, its performance in 2022 held the singular distinction of
20 being the first time that a high school marching band was the
21 leading group in the Rose Parade, holding a place of honor
22 behind the color guard; and

23 WHEREAS, the selection of the Patriot Band to play
24 in the Rose Parade - not only as one of the handful of high
25 school bands present, but as the leaders of the parade - is a
26 testament to the band's quality; the band, one of the most
27 well-respected marching bands in the country, has played in

1 the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade four times since 2000; has
2 played in the Orange Bowl; has played during St. Patrick's Day
3 festivities in Dublin, Ireland; and has played at Disney World
4 during Thanksgiving of 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, the band's impressive resume is due to the
6 hard work and dedication of not only its student members, but
7 also that of its former longtime band director Ron Pence and
8 longtime assistant and current director Chris Cooper; and

9 WHEREAS, current director Chris Cooper was recently
10 awarded the Outstanding Band Director award by Phi Beta Mu,
11 the International School Bandmaster Fraternity, an accolade
12 earned only by those who are the finest band conductors and
13 mentors to young musicians; and

14 WHEREAS, this body is proud to claim the Patriot
15 Band and its director Chris Cooper as true Alabamians, as they
16 are representative of the best our state has to offer in the
17 world of high school music programs; now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Homewood High School
20 Patriot Marching Band and its director Chris Cooper are hereby
21 commended for their incredible accomplishments and their
22 tradition of excellence, and are hereby declared to be musical
23 ambassadors for the State of Alabama.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
25 resolution be delivered to the Patriot Band and to director
26 Chris Cooper, as a mere token of our immense gratitude for
27 their service to this state.

