

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2001**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1368**

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Sponsors: Senators Foxx; Albertson, Allran, Basnight, Berger, Bingham, Carpenter, Carrington, Carter, Clodfelter, Cunningham, Dalton, Forrester, Garrou, Garwood, Gulley, Hagan, Hartsell, Horton, Hoyle, Kerr, Kinnaird, Lee, Lucas, Martin of Guilford, Martin of Pitt, Metcalf, Miller, Moore, Odom, Plyler, Rand, Reeves, Robinson, Rucho, Shaw of Cumberland, Shaw of Guilford, Soles, Swindell, Thomas, Webster, Weinstein, and Wellons.

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Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

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June 12, 2002

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF MYRTLE  
2 ELEANOR "LULU BELLE" COOPER WISEMAN STAMEY, FORMER  
3 MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND CELEBRATING THE YEAR  
4 OF THE APPALACHIA.

5       Whereas, the Appalachian region has a unique and rich culture; and

6       Whereas, July 2002, through July 2003, has been designated the "Year of the  
7 Appalachia", a celebration that will commence with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bristol  
8 recordings of Appalachian music and culminate with the Smithsonian Folklife Festival  
9 in Washington, D.C.; and

10       Whereas, various activities have been planned throughout the Appalachian  
11 region to celebrate the region's culture and heritage, including performances featuring  
12 traditional mountain music, dance, and crafts; and

13       Whereas, numerous states in the Appalachian region have adopted resolutions  
14 proclaiming July 2002 through July 2003 the "Year of the Appalachia"; and

15       Whereas, during the "Year of the Appalachia" the General Assembly would  
16 like to pay tribute to one of the State's most renown music performers, Myrtle Eleanor  
17 "Lulu Belle" Cooper Wiseman Stamey; and

18       Whereas, Lulu Belle was born on December 24, 1913, in Boone, North  
19 Carolina, to John Reed Cooper and Sydney Knupp Cooper; and

20       Whereas, when she was a teenager, Lulu Belle and her family moved to  
21 Illinois; and

22       Whereas, Lulu Belle began working as a singer and comedienne with Red  
23 Foley at age 19 on WLS Chicago's National Barn Dance, the most popular folk and  
24 country music radio program at that time; and

1           Whereas, Lulu Belle was later paired on the show with Scotty Wiseman,  
2 another North Carolinian, whom she married in 1934; and

3           Whereas, during the 1930s, Lulu Belle and Scotty's popularity helped attract  
4 large numbers of people to country music; and

5           Whereas, Lulu Belle and Scotty were known as the "Sweethearts of Country  
6 Music"; and

7           Whereas, in 1936, Lulu Belle was voted National Radio Queen by Radio  
8 Guide's readers; and

9           Whereas, Lulu Belle and Scotty performed on the National Barn Dance for  
10 almost 20 years, appeared together on several television shows and in seven motion  
11 pictures, and recorded several albums; and

12           Whereas, from 1949 to 1957, Lulu Belle and Scotty hosted their own daily  
13 television program on WNBQ in Chicago; and

14           Whereas, Lulu Belle and Scotty retired from entertaining in 1958 and moved  
15 back to North Carolina; and

16           Whereas, during the 1960s and 1970s, Lulu Belle and Scotty performed  
17 occasionally for events sponsored by the Country Music Association and the Grand Ole  
18 Opry; and

19           Whereas, during the 1970s, Lulu Belle became active in politics and was  
20 elected to the House of Representatives where she represented the people of Avery,  
21 Burke, and Mitchell Counties from 1975 through 1978; and

22           Whereas, during her lifetime, Lulu Belle gave freely of her time to numerous  
23 organizations, volunteered for the American Red Cross, and taught home nursing and  
24 craft classes; and

25           Whereas, Lulu Belle was active in the Pine Grove Methodist Church; and

26           Whereas, Lulu Belle was a loving mother to her two children, Linda and  
27 Steven, and a doting grandmother; and

28           Whereas, Lulu Belle lost her husband, Scotty, in 1981, and in 1983, married  
29 lifelong friend, Ernest Stamey; and

30           Whereas, Lulu Belle recorded a solo album in 1986; and

31           Whereas, Lulu Belle made great contributions to country music and helped  
32 pave the way for other female artists; and

33           Whereas, Lulu Belle died on February 8, 1999; Now, therefore,

34 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

35           **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the life and memory of Myrtle  
36 Eleanor "Lulu Belle" Cooper Wiseman Stamey for the service she rendered to the State  
37 of North Carolina and for the invaluable contributions she made to country music.

38           **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly extends its deepest sympathy to the  
39 family of Myrtle Eleanor "Lulu Belle" Cooper Wiseman Stamey for the loss of a  
40 beloved family member.

41           **SECTION 3.** The General Assembly encourages the citizens of this State to  
42 participate in the activities planned to celebrate the "Year of the Appalachia".

1           **SECTION 4.** The Secretary of State shall transmit certified copies of this  
2 resolution to the family of Myrtle Eleanor "Lulu Belle" Cooper Wiseman Stamey and  
3 the Birthplace of Country Music Alliance.

4           **SECTION 5.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.