

## House Resolution No. 173

**Whereas**, Cornell Haynes, Jr., better known as rap artist Nelly, got his start in music when he moved with his mother to the St. Louis suburb of University City, where he escaped the lures and temptations of life on the street and developed interests of a different kind that included baseball, storytelling, and writing rhymes; and

**Whereas**, Nelly formed a band with some high school friends called St. Lunatics, which scored a regional hit in 1996 with their self-produced single, "Gimmie What Ya Got", before it was decided that he should become a solo act in order to land a long-awaited recording contract; and

**Whereas**, Nelly soon caught the attention of Universal, who released his incredibly successful debut album, Country Grammar, in 2000, which quickly climbed the pop charts and cleared a permanent place for him and the City of St. Louis on the hip-hop map; and

**Whereas**, during the past two years, Nelly has shot to the top of his profession and has become one of the music industry's most talented and charismatic entertainers, all the while maintaining his pride for the City of St. Louis and the Show-Me State; and

**Whereas**, when he is not busy touring or promoting his latest album, Nelly can be found serving as a role model to young people everywhere through his efforts to encourage them to realize their goals and to achieve their dreams; and

**Whereas**, Nelly attended University City High School in University City, Missouri, which is in the 72nd Legislative District represented in the Missouri State House of Representatives by the Honorable Betty L. Thompson, who is proud to welcome this State's native son to the Missouri State Capitol today, February 5, 2002:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty and robust congratulations to Nelly upon his tremendous national and international success as a talented musician and favorite rap artist, and in wishing him only the very best of success in all his future endeavors; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Cornell Haynes, Jr., as a measure of our esteem for him.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Betty L. Thompson  
District No. 72

I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 173, adopted February 5, 2002.

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Jim Kreider, Speaker

