

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY BOGGESS

A Resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of
Glenn Miller's birthday.

WHEREAS, Alton Glenn Miller was born in Clarinda,
Iowa, on March 1, 1904, in the family home located at
601 S. 16th Street, now Glenn Miller Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Miller organized an orchestra in
1938, performing with an acclaimed style of big band
swing music that quickly set new records in attendance
and recording sales and continued to do so until the
orchestra was disbanded in 1942 at the height of its
popularity; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Miller and His Orchestra were the
first musicians to be recognized with a gold record
and this recognition has continued with an
accumulation of 29 gold records, so far; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Miller showed his patriotism by
volunteering at the age of 38 to join the U.S. Army
Air Force "to bring our music to the servicemen here
and abroad"; and

WHEREAS, he was commissioned as a captain and
assembled a military band of top-notch musicians that
was ordered to England in the spring of 1944, bringing
a new swinging sound to military music; and

WHEREAS, despite experiencing a shattering loss
with the death of Glenn Miller halfway through the
band's European mission, the band spent 13 months in
the European theater of operations while performing
nearly 1,000 times, making musical history while world

HR 122

1 history was being made; and

2 WHEREAS, in 1976, Clarinda began honoring its
3 famous son by hosting an annual music festival
4 featuring performers from all over the world and the
5 100th anniversary of Glenn Miller's birthday will be
6 specially recognized during this year's five-day
7 festival held June 9-13, 2004; and

8 WHEREAS, membership in Clarinda's Glenn Miller
9 Birthplace Society has grown to 1,500 members
10 representing 48 states and 24 nations, indicating the
11 continuing popularity of the Glenn Miller style of
12 music; and

13 WHEREAS, music helps bridge differences, as shown
14 by the example of Tamana Girls High School Band of
15 Kumamoto, Japan, which made its first appearance at
16 the festival in 1990, leading to establishment of a
17 Sister City and Sister School relationship with
18 Clarinda, a degree of cultural exchange unmatched by
19 other cities the size of Clarinda; NOW THEREFORE,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
21 That the House of Representatives salutes Glenn
22 Miller's legacy on the occasion of the 100th
23 anniversary of his birthday and joins people
24 everywhere in recognizing through Glenn Miller's
25 influence that when music is shared over the
26 generations and around the world, good things happen.

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