

## 1995 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 291

*Memorializing the President of the United States to bestow upon James Charles "Jimmie" Rodgers the Presidential Medal of Freedom.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 7, 1995

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 16, 1995

WHEREAS, the August 1927 Bristol Recording Sessions, the beginning of commercially successful country music, launched the career of James Charles "Jimmie" Rodgers; and

WHEREAS, members of Jimmie Rodgers' original band, the Tenneva Ramblers, were native sons of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Rodgers is widely recognized as the "Father of Country Music"; and

WHEREAS, the first inductee into the Country Music Hall of Fame, Jimmie Rodgers was also the first performing artist commemorated on a U.S. postage stamp; and

WHEREAS, other musicians, including country music stars Roy Acuff and Tennessee Ernie Ford, have received Presidential Citations; and

WHEREAS, a number of Governors, state legislatures, prominent citizens, and music fans have recommended that Jimmie Rodgers be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the President of the United States be urged to bestow upon Jimmie Rodgers the Presidential Medal of Freedom; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States so that he may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia.

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