

HR19 INTRODUCED



1 4P00I3-1

2 By Representative Ledbetter

3 RFD:

4 First Read: 16-Mar-23

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HR_____ COMMENDING MR. THOMAS WHITTEN FOR 41 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, AND FAMILIES.

WHEREAS, with very special pleasure, we highly commend Mr. Thomas Whitten for 41 years of dedicated service to children, adolescents, and families; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Whitten earned a Bachelor Degree in Sociology with minors in Corrections and Social Work from Jacksonville State University in 1980; he attended The University of Alabama Master of Social Work Program on a DHR Scholarship and stipend program for the first year and then received an Alabama Department of Mental Health Scholarship and stipend program, graduating in May 1982; and

WHEREAS, in June 1982, Mr. Whitten began working as a Social Worker at Louisiana Training Institute of Monroe, a secure facility for adjudicated juvenile delinquents ages 12-21 years; he later became a Licensed Clinical Social Worker; he was promoted to Program Manager of the state's maximum security facility for males, where he managed services for six years; later, he was appointed Superintendent of the state's secure facility for female juvenile offenders before returning to Louisiana Training



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26 Institute of Monroe as Assistant Superintendent; and
27 WHEREAS, after returning to Alabama in 1992, Mr.
28 Whitten received many promotions, including serving as the
29 Clinical Coordinator for the Marshall Jackson Mental Health
30 Board, Incorporated; being appointed by the respective
31 Judges of Probate as the first Mental Health Officer in both
32 Jackson County and Marshall County, where he led both
33 counties in receiving the first two-year certification for
34 all clinical services from the Alabama Department of Mental
35 Health; serving as the Social Worker for the DeKalb County
36 Children's Advocacy Center, where he became the agency's
37 first school-based Social Worker and was trained as a
38 Forensic Interviewer and as a Forensic Therapist; and
39 beginning program development for the DeKalb Youth Services
40 Center in conjunction with the DeKalb County Juvenile Court,
41 DeKalb County Schools, and Fort Payne City Schools in June
42 2009; and

43 WHEREAS, a man of steadfast selflessness and
44 diligence who is passionate about serving others, Mr.
45 Whitten has positively impacted the lives of many; now
46 therefore,

47 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
48 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Mr. Thomas Whitten is highly
49 commended for 41 years of dedicated service to children,
50 adolescents, and



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51 families, and this resolution hereby serves as a tribute to
52 him with warmest gratitude, admiration, and regard.