

HJR34 INTRODUCED



1 HJR34
2 8B8ZF2F-1
3 By Representatives Shedd, Harbison
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 13-Feb-24



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HJR___ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
RAYMOND GREGG HODGES.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death on February 5, 2024, of United States Veteran Raymond Gregg Hodges of Cullman, Alabama, at the age of 81; his passing leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many friends, and the community where he was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, born in New Hope, Alabama, on November 15, 1942, Gregg was the only child of Leota and Raymond Hodges; they lived in Albertville for most of his young life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hodges received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science and a Master of Arts Degree in Extension Education from Mississippi State University; he later earned his Education Specialist Degree in Education and Supervision from The University of Alabama, Gadsden Center; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Hodges served his country faithfully for four years in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and achieved the rank of Staff Sargent; he was honorably discharged in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Hodges began his extension career in Madison County, Mississippi, in 1971 as an assistant county agent for 4-H; he then served in Franklin and Etowah



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29 Counties in Alabama in similar positions until he became the
30 County Agent-coordinator of the Alabama Cooperative
31 Extension Service in Cullman County, where he remained for
32 over 20 years; and

33 WHEREAS, Mr. Hodges was a driving force in the
34 development of the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center;
35 he was also involved in the Farm-City program on state and
36 county levels, and he was a part of the delegation that
37 received the National Award for rural development in 1983;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, in 1991, he participated in an international
40 humanitarian project requested by Polish authorities after
41 the removal of the Berlin Wall; while in Poland, Mr. Hodges
42 organized the first 4-H Club and organized a Chamber of
43 Commerce for industry in Leszno, Poland; this action opened
44 the door to new economic development in the western corridor
45 of Poland; and

46 WHEREAS, in October 1999, Gregg Hodges was listed
47 among the Top 100 citizens of Cullman County Leaders of the
48 20th Century for Agricultural representation; and

49 WHEREAS, Mr. Hodges served in many other leadership
50 roles, including Director of the Cullman Chamber of
51 Commerce, President of the United Way, and President of
52 Alabama Association of County Agricultural Agents; he was
53 actively involved in the Cullman County Cattleman's
54 Association, Farmer's Federation, and the Cullman Hospice
55 and Housing Authority; recently, he has concentrated his
56 service with the Gideons and Cullman First Baptist Church;



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57 and

58 WHEREAS, Raymond Gregg Hodges was a dedicated
59 follower of Jesus Christ, devoted husband, loving daddy,
60 doting Paw Paw, and dear friend; he was blessed to marry the
61 love of his life, Marie Theresa Hodges, on February 28,
62 1967, and remained faithfully devoted to her even after her
63 passing in 2010; and

64 WHEREAS, Gregg Hodges is survived by his three
65 children; Tracy Thompson (Seth), David Hodges, and Aimee
66 Reese (Dave); eight grandchildren, Will Thompson, Claire
67 Thompson, Grace Thompson, Cooper Hodges, Katy Hodges, Luke
68 Reese, Ruby Reese, and Hodges Reese; as well as many other
69 beloved family members and friends; and

70 WHEREAS, Raymond Gregg Hodges leaves behind a legacy
71 which will long endure the passage of time and will remain
72 as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now
73 therefore,

74 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
75 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That although his presence will
76 be greatly missed, the memory of Raymond Gregg Hodges will
77 be cherished in the hearts of all who knew and loved him;
78 his death is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution
79 is offered in tribute to his life and service to others,
80 along with heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is
81 shared by many.