

1 HJR4
2 164329-2
3 By Representatives Collins, Henry, Hammon, Johnson (K), Shedd,
4 Ainsworth, Alexander, Baker, Ball, Bandy, Beckman, Beech,
5 Black, Boothe, Boyd, Bracy, Brown, Buskey, Butler, Carns,
6 Chesteen, Clarke, Clouse, Coleman-Evans, Daniels, Davis,
7 Drake, Drummond, England, Farley, Faulkner, Faust, Fincher,
8 Ford, Forte, Fridy, Garrett, Gaston, Givan, Greer, Grimsley,
9 Hall, Hanes, Harbison, Harper, Hill (J), Hill (M), Holmes (A),
10 Holmes (M), Howard, Hubbard, Hurst, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson
11 (R), Jones, Knight, Lawrence, Ledbetter, Lee, Lindsey, Martin,
12 McCampbell, McClammy, McCutcheon, McMillan, Melton, Millican,
13 Mooney, Moore (B), Moore (M), Morrow, Nordgren, Patterson,
14 Pettus, Polizos, Poole, Pringle, Rich, Robinson, Rogers, Rowe,
15 Sanderford, Scott, Sells, Sessions, Shiver, South, Standridge,
16 Todd, Treadaway, Tuggle, Vance, Wadsworth, Warren, Weaver,
17 Whorton (I), Whorton (R), Wilcox, Williams (D), Williams (JD),
18 Williams (JW), Williams (P), Wingo and Wood
19 RFD:
20 First Read: 03-MAR-15

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ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
MOURNING THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE BILL DUKES.

WHEREAS, it is with an overwhelming sense of loss that we mourn the death of our friend and former colleague, the Honorable Bill Dukes of Decatur on December 18, 2014, at the age of 87 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dukes, who served in the Alabama House of Representatives from 1994 to 2010 is remembered as one of Alabama's most respected and beloved public servants; and

WHEREAS, prior to his election to the Alabama House of Representatives, he served five terms (1976 to 1994) as the City of Decatur's longest tenured mayor; he maintained an open door policy and was known as "the people's mayor" while also diligently pursuing economic development and giving countless hours of his personal time to the pursuit of job creation; and

WHEREAS, under his stewardship, Decatur experienced great expansion, highlighted by attracting new business ventures, developing the Industrial Park and River Port, funding Decatur Riverwalk, and revitalizing the downtown area; he was also instrumental in enhancing the quality of life in the area, through a performing arts center and a baseball complex; and

1 WHEREAS, public education was his highest priority,
2 and he was committed to ensuring that schools received all the
3 resources they needed; and

4 WHEREAS, born in Kentucky on February 26, 1927, he
5 graduated from Bowling Green School of Business after serving
6 with honor and distinction in the United States Army; he was
7 initially employed as a teacher and administrator before
8 moving to Decatur in 1957 to work at Chemstrand Corporation
9 and embark upon an unparalleled career of public service; and

10 WHEREAS, his civic leadership through the years
11 included: President of the Jaycees, Commander of the American
12 Legion, Mason at The Rising Sun Lodge 29, and Shriner at
13 Cahaba Shrine, and his contributions have been recognized with
14 the "Melvin Jones Fellow Award" of the Lions Club, the "Paul
15 Harris Fellow Award" of the Rotary Club, and the "Mr. Tourism
16 Award" of the Decatur Convention and Visitors Bureau; and

17 WHEREAS, devoted to family and faith, he was a
18 devout member of the First Presbyterian Church, serving as
19 Elder and in many capacities; he was also actively involved in
20 youth sports, helping bring Dixie Youth Baseball to Decatur as
21 well as coaching and umpiring. and his dedication led to his
22 selection to receive the "Danny Jones Award" from the Dixie
23 Youth Baseball National Organization; he also was instrumental
24 in organizing the Decatur Youth Football Association; the City
25 of Decatur named the recreation facilities at Point Mallard

1 the "Bill J. Dukes Athletic Complex" in his honor, and he was
2 a 2000 inductee into the Morgan County Sports Hall of Fame;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, survivors include his wife of 66 years,
5 Juanita; sons, Ronnie (Vicki) and Jeff (Ann); daughters,
6 Sandra Barrett (Marty) and Pam Pike (Eddie); nine
7 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two brothers,
8 Robert and Jimmy; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Dukes earned the respect and the love
10 of all those who were fortunate to know him, and his legacy
11 will endure far into the future; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the life and contributions of
14 our friend and former colleague, the Honorable Bill Dukes are
15 hereby celebrated, and heartfelt condolences are extended to
16 his family.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 03-MAR-15.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

17-MAR-15

Adopted