

1 SJR40  
2 167747-2  
3 By Senators Chambliss and Ward  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 21-APR-15

1 SJR40

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4 ENROLLED, SJR40,

5 COMMENDING RUBY SMITH NEELY FOR HER SERVICE TO  
6 CENTRAL ALABAMA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE.

7  
8 WHEREAS, January 29, 1939, Ruby Smith was born to  
9 James C. Smith and Tiny Lee Smith; Ruby's birth was 11 months  
10 before Central Alabama Electric Cooperative (CAEC) energized  
11 its first substation and 478 miles of line, as it began  
12 service to 810 member-consumers with an initial loan of  
13 \$378,000 which was secured from the Rural Electrification  
14 Administration; Co-op power lighted the way to a brighter  
15 future; and

16 WHEREAS, Ruby and her family were among one of the  
17 first families to receive life-changing cooperative electric  
18 power in the Chilton County Community of Union Grove from  
19 CAEC; no one realized in the late 1930's the tremendous  
20 positive impact this infant who was born without electric  
21 power would eventually have on the Rural Electric Industry;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, August 1, 1956, Ruby married Eugene Neeley,  
24 a union which lasted 57 years, and produced a loving family  
25 which consists of one daughter, Gwen; her husband, Gary; two

1 grandchildren, Heath and Heather; five great grandchildren,  
2 Gracie, Jacob, Will, Tyler, and Bailee; and

3 WHEREAS, Ruby and Eugene owned and operated Neeley's  
4 Store for almost a decade in the Mineral Springs Community of  
5 Chilton County, a small commercial account served by CAEC; and

6 WHEREAS, Ruby Neeley replaced Mr. A.D. Headley on  
7 the CAEC Board of Trustees in August 1979, and on October 28,  
8 2014, after 35 years representing District 9, Ruby retired;  
9 she faithfully and competently served the CAEC members in  
10 various capacities; she has the second longest tenure of  
11 service as a Trustee and served as Secretary/Treasurer for the  
12 Board; additionally, she was the second woman to serve and the  
13 longest-serving female on the CAEC Board; and

14 WHEREAS, Ruby Neeley, who saw the services grow from  
15 18,000 meters to the present 42,000, has successfully applied  
16 her considerable energy, experience, and knowledge of the  
17 power industry proficiently serving the many members of CAEC  
18 and providing the members of CAEC with reliable and affordable  
19 electric service; supporting the Touchtone Energy brand as  
20 well as endorsing the International Electrification Program to  
21 provide people in developing countries with access to safe,  
22 reliable, and affordable electricity; and

23 WHEREAS, Ruby Neeley, has earned the friendship and  
24 respect of the Trustees, Employees, and Members of CAEC; she  
25 also served on PowerSouth's Board of Directors, representing

1 CAEC for 22 years, during which time she served on five  
2 committees: Nominating, Member Relations and External Affairs,  
3 Marketing and Industrial Development, Engineering and  
4 Operations and Finance and Audit; furthermore, she served as  
5 PowerSouth's delegate to the Alabama Rural Electric  
6 Association; and

7 WHEREAS, we should never forget pioneers like Ms.  
8 Ruby, who, in the electric movement, believed rural dwellers  
9 deserved the same conveniences as those who lived in the  
10 cities and fought to bring affordable and reliable electricity  
11 to rural areas of the great State of Alabama; and

12 WHEREAS, Ruby Neeley's steady attachment to co-op  
13 principles, her experience and unselfish willingness to serve  
14 will be sorely missed by the members and employees of CAEC,  
15 PowerSouth, Alabama Rural Electric Association, and the  
16 National Rural Electric Association; now therefore,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
18 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we join Members, Employees,  
19 Officers, and Trustees of Central Alabama Electric  
20 Cooperative, Inc., and do hereby express our great  
21 appreciation to Ruby Neeley for the immeasurable service she  
22 rendered and a copy of this resolution shall be provided to  
23 her as a token of our appreciation.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR40

Senate 30-APR-15

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 19-MAY-15

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By: Senator Chambliss