

1 HR228
2 192029-2
3 By Representatives Hall and Daniels
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 22-FEB-18

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7
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF DR. VIRGINIA CAPLES.

9
10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
11 death on February 19, 2018, of Dr. Virginia Caples of
12 Huntsville, Alabama, at the age of 72 years; and

13 WHEREAS, her passing leaves a void in the lives of
14 her loving family, many friends, and the entire community,
15 where she was highly regarded; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Caples was born on January 25, 1946, in
17 Doddsville, Mississippi, to Wiley Caples, Sr., and Ruth
18 Viverette Caples; she was the youngest of three children; and

19 WHEREAS, she received her Bachelor of Science Degree
20 in Home Economics Education from Alcorn State University, her
21 Master of Arts Degree, and Doctorate Degree in Home Economics
22 Education from Iowa State University; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Caples had a great passion for
24 education that led to a distinguished career as a
25 administrator, professor, scholar, and mentor; in 1995, she
26 had the distinction of being chosen by the Board of Trustees

1 as the first female interim President of Alabama A and M
2 University in Normal, Alabama; and

3 WHEREAS, during her 40-year career at the
4 University, she held leadership positions including, Provost
5 and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Associate Dean, and
6 Distinguished University Professor; and

7 WHEREAS, her numerous awards included the First
8 Annual Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award by the Huntsville
9 Madison County NAACP, the Mentor of the Year Award by the 100
10 Black Men of America, Incorporated, Huntsville Chapter,
11 Oakwood University Community Hero Award, the AL.com 30 Women
12 Who Shape the State Award, and the Martin Luther King Unity
13 Award from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Delta
14 Theta Lambda Chapter; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Caples was a member of Alpha Kappa
16 Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, the Greater Huntsville Chapter
17 of The Links, Incorporated, and the Church Street Cumberland
18 Presbyterian Church where she was a dedicated Sunday School
19 teacher and chair of the Diaconate; and

20 WHEREAS, one of her greatest honors came when
21 Alabama A and M University established the Virginia Caples
22 Lifelong Learning Institute on campus; this center addresses
23 the needs and quality of life of the older adult population in
24 the Tennessee Valley; and

25 WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her parents;
26 and brother, Wiley Caples, Jr.; and

1 WHEREAS, survivors include her devoted husband of 34
2 years, Hundley Batts, Sr.; brother, Eddie Caples; niece,
3 Cassandra Johnson; nephew, Anthony (Linda); great-niece,
4 Layla; niece, Michelle Caples; stepchildren, M.D. Batts,
5 Hundley Batts, Jr., (Janet), Sonya Batts-Martin;
6 granddaughter, Nia; sister-in-law, Delores Stewart;
7 brother-in-law; and a host of nieces and nephews and extended
8 family; and

9 WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly
10 missed, the memory of Dr. Caples will be cherished in the
11 hearts of all who knew and loved her; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
13 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Dr. Virginia
14 Caples has been recorded with deep sadness, and this
15 resolution is offered in tribute to her life and with
16 heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared by
17 many.