

1 HR229
2 192161-1
3 By Representative Grimsley
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 22-FEB-18

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7
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. ARDIS BREWER COTTON.

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10 WHEREAS, we deeply regret to learn of the death of
11 Mr. Ardis Brewer Cotton of Headland, Alabama, on February 16,
12 2018, at 92 years of age, and we uplift his inspiring life and
13 legacy with utmost reverence and respect; and

14 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Ardis Brewer Cotton
15 leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many friends,
16 and the entire community, where he was highly regarded; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Cotton graduated from a Saco, Alabama,
18 high school, and earned his Bachelor's Degree from Alabama
19 State University and his Master's Degree from Tuskegee
20 Institute; he was a member of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and
21 the Masonic Lodge Fellowship 439; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Cotton served with much honor in World
23 War II; a lifelong educator, he taught at Headland, Henry
24 County, and Abbeville Middle Schools, Albany State University,
25 and the Headland Adult Education program; he contributed
26 exceptional leadership as the principle of Hartford High
27 School; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Cotton was a consummate community
2 activist and a champion for youth and education; in
3 retirement, he worked at the Henry County Courthouse as a
4 Voter Registrant; and

5 WHEREAS, he accepted Christ into his life at an
6 early age; after moving to Headland, he joined Greater Shiloh
7 Baptist Church, where he served on various ministries and was
8 a devoted Deacon, Financial Secretary, and Sunday School
9 teacher; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Cotton married the love of his life,
11 Emma Mathis, on May 20, 1955, and their union was blessed with
12 three children; and

13 WHEREAS, survivors include his son, Byron C. Cotton;
14 daughter, Kassandra Sherrod (James); two granddaughters, Jade
15 and Alora; daughter-in-law, Betty; four sisters-in-law,
16 Catherine Humphrey "like a daughter" (Willie), Brenda Cotton,
17 Florine Mitchell, Genevieve Cotton; godson, Kendrick Spurling
18 (LaFrances); and numerous nephews, nieces, and friends; he was
19 preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Charlotte
20 Cotton; beloved and devoted wife of 63 years; son, Lawrence;
21 two sisters, Eulalia Coston and Oadie Ross; and two brothers,
22 Samuel Cotton and James Cotton (twin); and grandson, James
23 Sherrod, Jr.; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Ardis Brewer Cotton was a valued member
25 of the community; although his presence is greatly missed, his
26 memory is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those who
27 were fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
2 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That while grieving the death of
3 Mr. Ardis Brewer Cotton, we are extremely grateful for his
4 abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute
5 to his legacy, as well as with heartfelt sympathy to his
6 family and friends.