

1 HR342
2 192617-2
3 By Representative Beech
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 06-MAR-18

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8 RECOGNIZING COACH SIDNEY B. ATKINS UPON HIS MANY
9 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS A COACH AND AN EDUCATOR.
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11 WHEREAS, Sidney B. (Sid) Atkins, the dear friend and
12 former coach of our esteemed colleague, Representative Elaine
13 Beech, was born in Columbus, Mississippi; he attended S. D.
14 Lee High School where he was a standout athlete in football,
15 basketball, baseball, and track; in football he played
16 fullback and safety and served as the team kicker and punter;
17 in basketball, he played forward; in baseball, he was the
18 catcher and one of the top batters on their state championship
19 teams; in track he was a dash runner; and

20 WHEREAS, upon graduation from high school, Sid
21 attended the University of Southern Mississippi on a football
22 scholarship, where he was quarterback and punter; he later
23 transferred to Livingston University (now UWA) where he
24 received his bachelor's degree in physical education and
25 history; he received his master's degree from the University
26 of North Alabama in educational administration in 1975; and

1 WHEREAS, Sid began his coaching career with his
2 brother, Roland, in Greenville, Alabama, in 1968; he moved to
3 Gurley, Alabama, where he became head coach and athletic
4 director at Madison County High School; he also held head
5 coaching/athletic director positions at Millry High School in
6 Millry, Alabama, and Phillips High School in Bear Creek,
7 Alabama; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1978, Sid and his family moved to
9 Marengo County where he became principal at Marengo County
10 High School in Thomaston; in 1980, he became principal at
11 Sweet Water High School; this was the year the community
12 rallied to save the school from closing; he remained principal
13 at Sweet Water High School until 1993 when he retired with 25
14 years of service in public education; and

15 WHEREAS, following his retirement from public
16 education, Sid accepted the job as headmaster and coach at
17 Demopolis Academy, a position he held for ten years; while at
18 Demopolis Academy, he coached football and baseball; his
19 football teams made the playoffs in their division three times
20 and his baseball teams won three state championships in 1995,
21 1997, and 1998, and compiled an impressive 63-18 record during
22 those years; Sid was recognized by the Tuscaloosa News as
23 Coach of the Year in baseball; and

24 WHEREAS, after retiring from Demopolis Academy, he
25 was contacted by Patrician Academy to teach history and coach
26 football and softball; his football teams made several playoff

1 appearances; he taught at Patrician Academy for ten years
2 before retiring "for good"; and

3 WHEREAS, Sid and his wife, Brenda, a retired English
4 teacher, have three children; their son, Ken, is the county
5 civil engineer for Marengo County; daughter, Sandy, is the
6 deputy athletic director for Troy University and a member of
7 both Troy University Sports Hall of Fame and the Marengo
8 County Sports Hall of Fame; son, Mike, is the athletic
9 director and head football coach at Houston County High School
10 in Columbia, Alabama; they have six grandchildren, Mason,
11 Sidney Alyn, Hayes, Evan, Gracie, and Sophia; they are
12 enjoying traveling and watching the grandchildren participate
13 in sports and other activities; now therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
15 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we recognize and commend
16 Sidney B. (Sid) Atkins upon his many accomplishments as a
17 coach and an educator and we wish him continued success in all
18 future endeavors.