

1 HJR258
2 192236-3
3 By Representatives McCutcheon, Jones, Chesteen, Lee, Baker,
4 Shiver, Hurst, Polizos, Gaston, Martin, Davis, Mooney, Faust,
5 Collins, Pettus, Nordgren, Clouse, Beech, Lawrence, Butler,
6 Blackshear, Shedd, Standridge, Weaver, Pringle, Williams (JD),
7 Sells, Wood, Hall, Sessions, Tuggle, Rich, Williams (JW),
8 Whorton (R), Sanderford, Hanes, Beckman, McMillan, Drummond,
9 Forte, Clarke, Ellis, Ingram, Holmes (M), Fincher, McClammy,
10 Hollis, Ainsworth, Crawford, Garrett, Ford, Johnson (R),
11 Millican, Scott, Moore (M), Coleman, Poole, Harper, Williams
12 (P), South, Buskey, Jackson, Hill, Morrow, McCampbell, Warren,
13 Ledbetter, Rogers, Wadsworth, Black, Ball, Fridy, Rowe, Brown,
14 Harbison, Givan, Lovvorn, Bracy, Daniels, Boothe, Carns and
15 Faulkner
16 RFD: Rules
17 First Read: 27-FEB-18

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE
4 REVEREND BILLY GRAHAM, EVANGELIST TO THE WORLD.

5
6 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
7 death on February 21, 2018, of the Reverend Billy Graham of
8 Montreat, North Carolina, at the age of 99 years; and

9 WHEREAS, the Reverend Graham was born William
10 "Billy" Franklin Graham, Jr., on November 7, 1918, to William
11 Franklin, Sr. and Morrow Coffey Graham, in Charlotte, North
12 Carolina; and

13 WHEREAS, a graduate of Florida Bible Institute which
14 is now Trinity College of Florida; he received a Bachelor of
15 Arts Degree in Anthropology from Wheaton College in Wheaton,
16 Illinois, he was ordained to the ministry by Peniel Baptist
17 Church, Palatka, Florida, in 1939; and

18 WHEREAS, throughout his life, the Reverend Graham
19 preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ to more than 215 million
20 people who attended one of his more than 400 Crusades,
21 simulcasts and evangelistic rallies in more than 185 countries
22 and territories; he reached millions more through television,
23 video, film, the internet, and 34 books; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2001, he comforted his country and the
25 world when he spoke at the National Cathedral in Washington,

1 D.C., following the September 11 terrorist attacks; at three
2 global conferences held in Amsterdam, the Reverend Graham
3 gathered some 23,000 evangelists from 208 countries and
4 territories to train them to carry the message of Jesus Christ
5 around the world; and

6 WHEREAS, during the week of his 95th birthday in
7 2013, the Reverend Graham delivered his final message via more
8 than 480 television stations across the United States and
9 Canada; more than 26,000 churches participated in this "My
10 Hope" project, making it the Billy Graham Evangelistic
11 Association's largest evangelistic outreach ever in North
12 America; and

13 WHEREAS, at his final Crusade in June 2005 at
14 Flushing Meadows Corona Park in New York, the Reverend Graham
15 said, "I have one message: That Jesus Christ came, He died on
16 a cross, He rose again, and He asked us to repent of our sins
17 and receive Him by faith as Lord and Savior, and if we do, we
18 have forgiveness of all our sins"; and

19 WHEREAS, in his autobiography, "Just As I Am," the
20 Reverend Graham wrote that he felt God calling him to the
21 ministry; the call came during a late-night walk on a golf
22 course; "I got down on my knees at the edge of one of the
23 greens, then I prostrated myself on the dewy turf, 'O God,' I
24 sobbed, 'if you want me to serve you, I will'; all the
25 surroundings stayed the same, no sign in the heavens, no voice

1 from above, but in my spirit I knew I had been called to the
2 ministry, and I knew my answer was yes"; and

3 WHEREAS, over the course of Reverend Graham's
4 ministry, he became a beloved minister to many citizens of the
5 State of Alabama, as well as the United States and all over
6 the world; and

7 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents;
8 and his beloved wife of 64 years, Ruth McCue Bell Graham; and

9 WHEREAS, survivors include his sister, Jean Ford;
10 daughters, Virginia Leftwich "Gigi" Graham, Anne Morrow Graham
11 Lotz, Ruth Bell Graham, William Franklin Graham, III, and
12 Nelson Edman Graham; 19 grandchildren, and 41
13 great-grandchildren; and

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of the Reverend
16 Billy Graham is recorded with deep sadness and with heartfelt
17 sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by many, and
18 also with gratefulness and admiration for his ministry and
19 message, bearing in mind Reverend Graham's oft used words:
20 "Someday you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead.
21 Don't believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am
22 now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone
23 into the presence of God."

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution is
25 offered in tribute to his life and ministry.

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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 06-MAR-18.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

13-MAR-18

Adopted