

1 HJR343  
2 192627-2  
3 By Representative Beech  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 06-MAR-18

8 RECOGNIZING COACH SIDNEY B. ATKINS UPON HIS MANY  
9 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS A COACH AND AN EDUCATOR.  
10

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 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
15      HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, 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.