

HJR4 ENROLLED



1 HJR4
2 KHBCGUA-2
3 By Representatives Reynolds, Whitt, Paramore, Hill,
4 Standridge, Carns, Mooney, Bolton, Starnes, Stubbs,
5 Blackshear, Bracy, Givens, Lamb, Fidler, Drummond, Holk-Jones,
6 Travis, Lawrence, Daniels, McClammy, Hollis, McCampbell,
7 Tillman, Hendrix, Lovvorn, Ellis, Baker, Shaver, Sellers,
8 Yarbrough, Rafferty, Brown, DuBose, Underwood, Harrison,
9 Stringer, Bedsole, Pettus, Rigsby, Lomax, Moore (P), Hall,
10 Wood (R), Shaw, Myrex, Rehm, Butler, Faulkner
11 RFD:
12 First Read: 13-Jan-26

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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE
4 HOWARD SANDERFORD.

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6 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and deep regret
7 that we record the passing of The Honorable Howard
8 Sanderford on January 7, 2026, at the age of 90; and

9 WHEREAS, an outstanding member of the community,
10 Howard Sanderford selflessly served the state as a military
11 officer, legislator, and public servant; he was known for
12 his commitment to faith, family, and the betterment of his
13 community, and he set a shining example for all who knew
14 him; and

15 WHEREAS, Howard Sanderford was born on October 18,
16 1935, in Meridian, Mississippi; he earned his Bachelor of
17 Science in Accounting from Mississippi State University,
18 where he was active in student government; and

19 WHEREAS, after graduating, he served as an officer in
20 the United States Marine Corps, where he participated in the
21 Beirut, Lebanon, landing of 1958; he was a member of the
22 Marine Corps League, the Military Order of World Wars, the
23 Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion Post 237, and
24 the Military Officers Association of America; and

25 WHEREAS, following his military service, he moved to
26 Alabama and began a business career in the information
27 technology sector, serving as an executive with IBM in
28 Huntsville until his "first retirement" in 1987; that



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29 retirement did not last long, as he soon thereafter founded
30 Computer Leasing Company, Incorporated, of Huntsville, where
31 he served as its president for decades; and

32 WHEREAS, in 1989, Mr. Sanderford won a special
33 election to represent the 20th District in the Alabama House
34 of Representatives, beginning his storied career as a
35 legislator; within the State House, he was known for his
36 tireless dedication to his constituents and endless energy
37 for public service; he was slow to anger, empathetic, and a
38 role model for young legislators; he retired from the
39 Legislature after 33 years in 2022; and

40 WHEREAS, during his esteemed tenure in the
41 Legislature, Mr. Sanderford served in many capacities,
42 including, but certainly not limited to: Chair of the House
43 Boards, Agencies, and Commissions Committee; Cochair of the
44 Joint Legislative Sunset Committee; Chair of the Alabama
45 Legislative Medal of Honor for Law Enforcement; member of
46 the Alabama Space Authority; executive board member of the
47 Southern Legislative Conference; longtime member of the
48 House Constitution, Campaign, and Elections Committee; and
49 member of the Internal Affairs Committee, the House
50 Technology and Research Committee, and the Madison County
51 Legislation Committee; and

52 WHEREAS, Mr. Sanderford's services to the State of
53 Alabama and its people extends far beyond the titles he held
54 within the State House; he freely dedicated his time to
55 numerous boards, clubs, and organizations, including as past
56 President of the Huntsville Rotary Club; past Chair of the



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57 Madison County Republican Executive Committee; past Cochair
58 of the Chamber of Commerce Free Enterprise Committee; past
59 Vice President of the Metropolitan YMCA Board; and board
60 member of the Alabama Management Improvement Program and
61 Alabama Men's Hall of Fame; and

62 WHEREAS, as a representative from Huntsville, Mr.
63 Sanderford naturally took an interest in the aerospace
64 industry; he was appointed to the board of the U.S. Space
65 and Rocket Center in 2009, served as an ex officio member of
66 the Rocket Center Education Foundation, and was a board
67 member of the Alabama Commission on Aerospace Sciences; as a
68 legislator, he championed Space Academy for Leading Students
69 in Alabama (SALSA), which provides scholarships for two
70 middle school students in every Alabama legislative district
71 to attend Space Camp each year, and he served as the point
72 man for the annual NASA Day at the State House; he and his
73 wife were also generous supporters of the Rocket Center,
74 donating scholarships for teachers to attend Space Academy
75 for Educators; and

76 WHEREAS, a man of strong faith, Mr. Sanderford was a
77 devoted and active member of First Baptist Church of
78 Huntsville, where he was a former deacon, youth Sunday
79 school teacher, and director; his proudest accomplishment
80 was no doubt the large and beautiful family he reared with
81 his ever-present wife, Dot, who was truly the great woman
82 behind this great man; and

83 WHEREAS, Mr. Sanderford is survived by his loving
84 wife of many years, Dot; three daughters, Mary Ann, Peggy,



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85 and Betty; four grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; a
86 step-great-grandson; and a host of other loving extended
87 family members and friends; and

88 WHEREAS, Howard Sanderford's life was guided by
89 faith, family, service, and a deep love for his community;
90 he will be remembered as a thoughtful and principled leader
91 who was the epitome of a selfless statesman; he leaves
92 behind a world made better by his presence and a legacy
93 which will long endure the passage of time and remain as a
94 comforting memory to his proud and grateful family; now
95 therefore,

96 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
97 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of The Honorable
98 Howard Sanderford is recorded with deep sadness, and this
99 resolution is offered in tribute to his life and service to
100 others, along with heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose
101 grief is shared by many.



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113 Speaker of the House of Representatives

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118 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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121 House of Representatives

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123 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
124 and was passed by the House 13-Jan-26.

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126 John Treadwell
127 Clerk

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133 Senate

14-Jan-26

134 Adopted

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