

## HJR4 ENROLLED



HJR4

KHBCGUA-2

By Representatives Reynolds, Whitt, Paramore, Hill,  
Standridge, Carns, Mooney, Bolton, Starnes, Stubbs,  
Blackshear, Bracy, Givens, Lamb, Fidler, Drummond, Holk-Jones,  
Travis, Lawrence, Daniels, McClammy, Hollis, McCampbell,  
Tillman, Hendrix, Lovvorn, Ellis, Baker, Shaver, Sellers,  
Yarbrough, Rafferty, Brown, DuBose, Underwood, Harrison,  
Stringer, Bedsole, Pettus, Rigsby, Lomax, Moore (P), Hall,  
Wood (R), Shaw, Myrex, Rehm, Butler, Faulkner

RFD:

First Read: 13-Jan-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2  
3 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE  
4 HOWARD SANDERFORD.  
5

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Mr. Sanderford is survived by his loving 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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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

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

John Treadwell  
Clerk

Senate

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**14-Jan-26**

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Adopted