

1 HJR198
2 117433-1
3 By Representative Beech
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 02-FEB-10

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. SAMMIE JOE LAURIE.
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10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and regret that
11 news is received of the death of Mr. Sammie Joe Laurie of
12 Chatom, Alabama, on December 14, 2009, at the age of 63 years;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Laurie was a prominent attorney and
15 esteemed civic leader who served as municipal judge for the
16 City of Chatom from 1972-1979 and as city attorney from 1980
17 until his death; in addition, he was also serving as municipal
18 judge for the Town of McIntosh, a position he had held for 27
19 years; and

20 WHEREAS, a graduate of Marion Military Institute and
21 The University of Alabama Law School, Mr. Laurie began his law
22 practice in Chatom in 1972; he was a descendant of one of
23 Washington County's pioneer families, the Wilkins family, who
24 lived in Healing Springs, where Mr. Laurie's grandfather, S.
25 J. "Bud" Wilkins, was born; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Laurie was a member of Chatom First
27 Baptist Church and held many roles of civic leadership

1 including serving on the Chatom Library Board, the Chatom
2 Utilities Board, and the Chatom Housing Authority; he was a
3 former chairman of the Washington County United Way; and

4 WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death his beloved
5 wife, Sherry M. Laurie; daughters, Jennifer Lambert and Rachel
6 Reynolds; and a number of additional devoted relatives and
7 friends; and

8 WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Laurie earned
9 widespread respect for his tireless dedication and exceptional
10 abilities while making numerous far-reaching contributions to
11 his beloved community; his presence will be greatly missed by
12 those who were privileged to know him, but his legacy will
13 endure far into the future; now therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Sammie Joe
16 Laurie is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is
17 offered in highest tribute to his life of achievement and
18 service, along with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.