

1       HR234  
2       117745-1  
3       By Representative Hubbard  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 04-FEB-10

RECOGNIZING THE LATE MR. ROSS DEBTER AS RECIPIENT OF  
THE AUBURN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PIONEER  
AWARD.

WHEREAS, the Auburn University Agricultural Alumni  
Association Pioneer Award honors individuals, living and  
deceased, who have made significant contributions to the field  
of agriculture in the State of Alabama; the late Mr. Ross  
Debter has been honored with the Pioneer Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Debter, a native of Horton, Alabama,  
lived his entire life within 150 miles of his birthplace;  
known for his genuine smile and geniality, he was a natural  
salesman and entrepreneur; and

WHEREAS, at age 12, Mr. Debter began buying eggs,  
butter, and fresh vegetables from local farmers and marketing  
them to local grocery stores; this was to be the beginning of  
his lifelong commitment to providing customers with the  
freshest produce possible; and

WHEREAS, an active and innovative poultryman  
committed to a "quality-first" approach, Mr. Debter installed

1 the first egg cooler in north Alabama in 1954 and installed  
2 his first egg grader soon thereafter; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Debter was active in the Alabama  
4 Poultry & Egg Association and the National Egg Company; he  
5 also served on numerous boards and committees within the  
6 industry; as an advocate for Alabama producers, he was  
7 instrumental in passage of legislation to ensure better eggs  
8 for consumers and a fairer market for producers; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Debter passed away in 2001 at the age  
10 of 89; he was preceded in death by his wife, Eva J. Debter;  
11 Mr. Debter is survived his son, Glynn Debter; daughter, Ann  
12 Tidwell; five grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren;  
13 his family is justly proud of his contributions to Alabama  
14 agriculture; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
16 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby recognize the late  
17 Mr. Ross Debter as the recipient of the Auburn University  
18 Agriculture Alumni Association Pioneer Award and, by copy of  
19 this resolution, extend our heartfelt good wishes to his  
20 family.