

1 HR591

2 119844-1

3 By Representatives Black, Allen, Baker (A), Baker (L), Ball,  
4 Bandy, Barton, Beasley, Beech, Bentley, Boothe, Boyd, Bridges,  
5 Brown, Buskey, Canfield, Clouse, Coleman, Collier, Curtis,  
6 Davis, DeMarco, Drake, Dukes, England, Faust, Fields, Fincher,  
7 Ford, Galliher, Gaston, Gipson, Gordon, Graham, Grantland,  
8 Greeson, Grimes, Guin, Hall, Hammett, Hammon, Harper, Hill,  
9 Hilliard, Hinshaw, Holmes, Howard, Hubbard, Hurst, Irons,  
10 Ison, Jackson, Johnson, Kennedy, Knight, Laird, Letson, Lewis,  
11 Lindsey, Love, Martin, Mask, McAdory, McCampbell, McClammy,  
12 McClendon, McClurkin, McCutcheon, McDaniel, McLaughlin,  
13 McMillan, Millican, Mitchell, Moore (M), Moore (P), Morrow,  
14 Newton (C), Newton (D), Oden, Page, Payne, Robinson (J),  
15 Robinson (O), Rogers, Salaam, Sanderford, Scott, Sherer,  
16 Shiver, Spicer, Taylor, Thigpen, Thomas (E), Thomas (J), Todd,  
17 Treadaway, Vance, Ward, Warren, White, Williams (J), Williams  
18 (P), Wood and Wren

19 RFD:

20 First Read: 11-MAR-10

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7  
8 RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING PERCY SLEDGE.  
9

10 WHEREAS, it is a great pleasure to honor and commend  
11 the music icon Percy Sledge, an Alabama native whose melodious  
12 voice and heartrending delivery have earned him enduring,  
13 worldwide acclaim as the Golden Voice of Soul; and

14 WHEREAS, Percy Sledge is best-known for his 1966  
15 classic ballad, "When a Man Loves a Woman," which was the  
16 first Southern soul recording to reach the top of both the R&B  
17 and pop charts in the United States and went on to become an  
18 international hit; in 1988, the song was named one of the best  
19 100 singles of the past 25 years by Rolling Stone Magazine;  
20 during the early years of his career, he also recorded several  
21 additional Top Ten R&B hits including "Warm and Tender Love,"  
22 "It Tears Me Up," and "Take Time to Know Her"; and he returned  
23 to the top of the charts in 1974 with "I'll Be Your  
24 Everything"; he continued to draw enthusiastic audiences while  
25 touring constantly into the 1990s and was critically acclaimed  
26 in 1994 for "Blue Night," a collection of new material; and

1           WHEREAS, born November 25, 1940, in the isolated  
2     farming community of Leighton, Alabama, Percy Sledge worked on  
3     the family farm and as a hospital orderly before breaking into  
4     the music business, joining the Esquires Combo that was based  
5     in Muscle Shoals; his career skyrocketed when he signed a  
6     recording contract after being introduced to Quin Ivy, a  
7     well-known producer and owner of a record company in  
8     Sheffield, Alabama; and

9           WHEREAS, Percy Sledge has toured the world, appeared  
10    on television, and entertained multiple thousands of fans in  
11    public venues, in addition to his soulful recordings that have  
12    provided the intimate atmosphere for many romantic encounters;  
13    he has received numerous awards and recognitions, including  
14    becoming the first recipient of the R&B Foundation's Career  
15    Achievement Award in 1989; he also won the W. C. Handy Blues  
16    Awards in 1996 for Best Soul/Blues album of the year and in  
17    2005 was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; he has  
18    been honored with a Gold Star at the Alabama Music Hall of  
19    Fame and was the 1993 recipient of the Lifework Award for  
20    Performing Achievement; now therefore,

21           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
22    THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That it is a great pleasure to  
23    recognize and commend Alabama's own Percy Sledge, who  
24    continues to be an outstanding musical ambassador to the world  
25    for his beloved home state, and this resolution is offered in  
26    highest tribute and deepest appreciation to him, along with  
27    best wishes for success in all future endeavors.

