

1 HJR461  
2 119375-3  
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Ball, McCutcheon, Williams (P),  
4 Hinshaw, Hall and Taylor  
5 RFD: Rules  
6 First Read: 02-MAR-10

1  
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. JAMES R. CLEARY.  
4

5 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and regret that  
6 news is received of the death of Mr. James R. Cleary of  
7 Huntsville, Alabama, on February 15, 2010, at the age of 83  
8 years; and

9 WHEREAS, a retired attorney, Mr. Cleary was a highly  
10 regarded civic leader; born July 16, 1926, in Springville, he  
11 graduated from Birmingham-Southern College in 1948 and earned  
12 his law degree from Northwestern Law School in 1951; he moved  
13 to Huntsville to establish the Army legal office at Redstone  
14 Arsenal and worked there until entering private practice in  
15 1955; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Cleary played a major role in the  
17 development of Huntsville's economy; he was one of the  
18 founding partners of WAFG-TV, a station that became WAAY-TV,  
19 and was one of the founders of The Huntsville News, which was  
20 later sold to The Huntsville Times; he also was a founding  
21 director of Security Federal Savings and Loan, which became  
22 Secor, and American National Bank, which became AmSouth,  
23 serving on the board of directors of both institutions for  
24 many years; and

1           WHEREAS, among his civic contributions, he served on  
2           the Madison County Airport Authority from 1968-1986; he was  
3           the Madison County president of the Jaycees 1955-1956 and  
4           state vice president of the Jaycees in 1957, when he was also  
5           named the "Young Man of the Year" for Huntsville; his  
6           additional leadership roles included membership on the Board  
7           of Trustees for Birmingham-Southern College and serving as  
8           president of the Optimist Club of Huntsville and lieutenant  
9           governor of the Alabama-Mississippi District; devoted to  
10          family and faith, he was a member of the First United  
11          Methodist Church for more than 50 years, where he served on  
12          the administrative board and in many other capacities; and

13          WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death his beloved  
14          wife of 50 years, Voncille; two daughters, Johanna Cleary and  
15          Susan (Bill) Sommers; sister, Louise (Jack) Amos; and seven  
16          nephews and nieces; preceding him in death were his parents,  
17          Bereman Leroy Cleary and Bertie Jones Cleary; and

18          WHEREAS, Mr. Cleary was a valued member of the  
19          community whose presence will be greatly missed by all those  
20          who were privileged to know him during the course of his long  
21          and productive life; now therefore,

22          BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
23          HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. James R.  
24          Cleary is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is

1        offered in highest tribute to his life of achievement and  
2        service, along with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17

---

Speaker of the House of Representatives

---

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in  
and was adopted by the House 03-MAR-10.

Greg Pappas  
Clerk

Senate

---

23-MAR-10

Adopted