

1 HJR106
2 126951-1
3 By Representative Jones
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 10-MAR-11

MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. JACOB EUGENE MERRILL OF
COVINGTON COUNTY.

WHEREAS, it is with deep and abiding grief that the
Alabama Legislature records the death of Mr. Jacob "Jake"
Eugene Merrill of Covington County on February 14, 2011, at
the age of 85 years; and

WHEREAS, he was born in Troy, Alabama, in 1925,
where he spent his early childhood years before moving to
Andalusia at the age of seven; and

WHEREAS, immediately following graduation from
Andalusia High School at age 17, he enlisted in the United
States Army Air Force, where he served a three-year term
during World War II, thereafter attending Auburn University on
the G.I. Bill, where he majored in Mechanical Engineering; and

WHEREAS, after his college years, he entered into
the ownership and operation of J.M. Merrill Motors of
Andalusia with his father, Jessie, and brother, Warren; this
enterprise thrived for more than 50 years, positively
impacting many lives in Covington County; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Merrill was a Mason, a Toastmaster, and
2 a longtime faithful member of the First Baptist Church in
3 Andalusia; his "claim to fame" was winning the runner-up
4 doubles trophy at the World Domino Tournament in Andalusia in
5 1979; and

6 WHEREAS, he was an avid supporter of Auburn
7 football, never met a stranger, and was known for being quick
8 with one-liners; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Merrill will be remembered as an honest
10 and honorable man, an exemplar of responsible and responsive
11 citizenship; he is deeply missed by all those who are grateful
12 for his presence in their lives; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That even as we mourn his death, we
15 give thanks for the life of Jacob Eugene Merrill and extend
16 our most heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Mary Clyde Merrill;
17 children, Martha Susan Griffith, M.D., Fran Bostick, and John
18 Jacob Merrill; brother, Warren Merrill; sister, Becky Wilder;
19 and other family members, for whom copies of this resolution
20 shall be provided.