

1 HJR135
2 126553-2
3 By Representative Forte
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 22-MAR-11

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 COMMENDING HOMER NEAL LEWIS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO
4 AGRICULTURE AND THE YOUTH OF ALABAMA.

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6 WHEREAS, highest commendation is herein conveyed to
7 Homer Neal Lewis in recognition of his distinguished record of
8 contributions to agriculture and the youth of Alabama; and

9 WHEREAS, born in Barbour County, Alabama, in 1922,
10 he began his college career in 1941 but interrupted his
11 education to serve with honor and distinction in the United
12 States Army in the South Pacific during World War II; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1946, he enrolled in Auburn University,
14 earning a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Education in 1950
15 and a Master's Degree in 1959; his initial work was in
16 Montgomery County, where he was head of the Veterans
17 Agricultural Training Program and Vocational Agriculture
18 Teacher at Sidney Lanier High School; and

19 WHEREAS, a few years later, he returned to Auburn
20 and became a Livestock Specialist with the Alabama Department
21 of Vocational Education, a position he held for 38 years,
22 working closely with teachers in developing programs to
23 strengthen Alabama farms and ranches; and

24 WHEREAS, his principal focus was on livestock
25 improvement, and he is credited with developing and

1 implementing programs to improve the quality of Alabama beef
2 cattle and swine herds; he was a central figure in all
3 livestock events at fairs in Birmingham, Mobile, Dothan,
4 Selma, and Montgomery, where his service to the South Alabama
5 State Fair was recognized in 1986 with the naming of a barn in
6 the agricultural exhibit area in his honor; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis served as Executive Secretary for
8 the Alabama Future Farmers of America, District Supervisor of
9 Agribusiness Teachers, and Livestock Judge in shows across the
10 southeast; he also organized the Past State FFA Alumni
11 Association and was responsible for organizing the Alabama
12 Young and Adult Farmers Educational Association, serving as
13 the group's state advisor since its inception in 1979 and
14 receiving an award for Outstanding Special Service in 2009 at
15 the National Convention; and

16 WHEREAS, although he retired in 1987, Mr. Lewis has
17 continued his involvement in the activities of farm-related
18 organizations including serving on the Executive Committee of
19 the State FFA Officers Alumni Association, the FFA Career Tech
20 Committee, and the FFA Foundation, which recently honored him
21 by establishing the H.N. Lewis Scholarship Fund for 3rd and
22 4th year University students enrolled in Agriscience
23 Education; among his additional recognitions, he was inducted
24 into the Auburn University Agriculture Alumni Hall of Fame in
25 1988; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis has also been actively involved
2 with the National Peanut Festival organization in Dothan,
3 Alabama, since its inception in 1950 and was chosen as Grand
4 Marshal for its opening parade in 2009; for 20 years, he has
5 been on the Board of Directors of the Agricultural Museum at
6 Landmark Park in Dothan, and he has served on the board of the
7 Alabama Rural Rehabilitation Corporation for 15 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis and his wife, Eloise, reside in
9 his boyhood home on his farm in Barbour County, where at age
10 89 he continues to be a source of inspiration to those who are
11 fortunate to know him; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of a lifetime
14 of outstanding contributions to agriculture and youth in
15 Alabama, highest commendation is conveyed to Homer Neal Lewis,
16 for whom a copy of this resolution is provided as evidence of
17 the esteem of the people of the State of Alabama.

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4 Speaker of the House of Representatives

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6 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

7 House of Representatives

8 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
9 and was adopted by the House 24-MAR-11.

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16 Senate

31-MAR-11

Adopted

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