

1 HR271
2 128634-1
3 By Representative Ford
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 05-APR-11

8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. GORDON ROSWELL ISBELL, JR.
9

10 WHEREAS, with profound sorrow and regret, we receive
11 news of the death of Mr. Gordon Roswell Isbell, Jr., of
12 Gadsden, Alabama, on March 19, 2011, at the age of 87 years;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Isbell leaves a void in
15 the lives of his loving family, his many friends, and the
16 entire community, where he was well-known and highly regarded;
17 he was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church
18 of Attalla and was a distinguished civic leader and
19 businessman; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Isbell served his country with honor
21 and distinction in the United States Army from 1943-1946;
22 among his community affiliations, he was past president of the
23 Alabama City Civitan Club; past president of the Gadsden
24 Kiwanis Club, with a 55-year perfect attendance record; member
25 of the Board of Directors for the United Givers Fund of Etowah
26 County; and member of the Attalla Masonic Lodge and the
27 Gadsden Quarterback Club; and

1 WHEREAS, an avid supporter of Auburn University, he
2 was a member and benefactor of the Sigma Nu Fraternity at AU
3 and received the Sigma Nu John M. Ward Outstanding Alumni
4 Award; and

5 WHEREAS, the list of his additional honors and
6 recognitions includes: the Kiwanis Club George M. Hixon Award,
7 the J. Mercer Barnett Award, the Key Club Hoyt W. Lee Award,
8 the Barnett-Isbell Friendship Award, and the Gordon R. Isbell
9 Jr. Doer Award; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Isbell was the owner of Isbell and
11 Hallmark Furniture Company, which was in business in Etowah
12 County for more than a century; he was a member of the Gadsden
13 Chamber of Commerce, president and treasurer of the Alabama
14 Furniture Retailers' Association, and a member of the Board of
15 Directors for the Etowah County Retail Furniture Dealers'
16 Association; and

17 WHEREAS, preceding him in death were his parents,
18 Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Roswell Isbell, Sr.; and sister, Annette
19 Hornsby; and

20 WHEREAS, he is survived by his beloved wife of 58
21 years, Iris Johnson Isbell; sons, Dr. Gordon Roswell (Cindy)
22 Isbell, III, Hal Johnson (Leigh) Isbell, and Gilmer Frank
23 (Syndee) Isbell; grandchildren, Christina Isbell, Hal Johnson
24 Isbell, Jr., Hilyer Isbell, Gordon Roswell Isbell, IV, Timothy
25 Isbell, Frances Taylor Isbell, and Iris Ann Isbell; sister,
26 Katherine O'Rear; brother-in-law, Joe Johnson; sister-in-law,
27 Shirley Johnson; nephews, Caine O'Rear, III, George O'Rear,

1 Griff O'Rear, Dr. Joe Hornsby, and Joey Johnson; nieces,
2 Isbell Juntila, Kathryn Hornsby, and Jill Herron; and cousin,
3 Margaret Ann (Jim) Todd; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Isbell was a valued member of the
5 community who touched many lives with his kindness and
6 generosity; although his presence will be missed, his memory
7 will be cherished in the hearts and minds of those who were
8 fortunate to know him; now therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
10 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. Gordon
11 Roswell Isbell, Jr., is recorded with deep sadness, and this
12 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with
13 heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.