

1 HR335
2 129347-1
3 By Representative Merrill
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 14-APR-11

1 129347-1:n:04/12/2011:JMW/jmw LRS2011-2244

2

3

4

5

6

7

8 RECOGNIZING THE HUGHES CEMETERY OF POPLAR SPRINGS
9 FOR ITS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

10

11 WHEREAS, it is a privilege to recognize the
12 significance of the Hughes Cemetery of Poplar Springs on the
13 occasion of the dedication ceremony of its official Historical
14 Marker on April 16, 2011; and

15 WHEREAS, on March 25, 2006, volunteers from the
16 Poplar Springs, Prudes Creek, Providence, Antioch, Northport,
17 and Rock Creek communities of Alabama joined together to
18 remove briars, brambles, and storm damaged trees at an old
19 cemetery atop a hill in the Poplar Springs community; and

20 WHEREAS, research of old Tuscaloosa County land
21 deeds revealed that the land has been the property of the
22 State of Alabama since 1924; and

23 WHEREAS, between the 1820s and 1830s, settlers came
24 to this area in wagons, probably from North Carolina to find
25 farm land and a better way of life for their families; it is
26 believed that they resided with the Indian population of the
27 area; and

1 WHEREAS, the cemetery was named for Franklin Hughes
2 (1818-1887), who was awarded an Ancestral Land Grant of 239.70
3 acres in the valley below the hill cemetery on December 10,
4 1859; his final resting place as well as others (Lawrence,
5 Garner, Rains, and Gwins) overlook the beautiful valley he
6 homesteaded; and

7 WHEREAS, with its "swept cemetery style" and
8 vernacular gravestones, the Hughes Cemetery is unique and
9 fully justifies the preservation of this part of Alabama
10 history; and

11 WHEREAS, the Alabama Historical Commission has
12 listed the Hughes Cemetery as the 10th cemetery in Tuscaloosa
13 County and presented a certificate to Poplar Springs Baptist
14 Church on July 12, 2010; and

15 WHEREAS, Poplar Springs Baptist Church has adopted
16 this cemetery to maintain and preserve for future generations;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, an official Historical Marker has been
19 purchased by several members of Poplar Springs Baptist Church,
20 and a dedication ceremony is scheduled for April 16, 2011, at
21 the cemetery; now therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
23 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That it is a great pleasure to
24 recognize the historical significance of the Hughes Cemetery
25 of Poplar Springs and, by copy of this resolution for
26 presentation at the dedication ceremony, we convey our esteem

1 and appreciation to those who have worked to preserve this
2 venerable Alabama landmark.