

1 HJR583  
2 131608-1  
3 By Representatives Hill, McCutcheon and Galliher  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 24-MAY-11

8 COMMENDING DR. MARTHA MORROW FOR HER LEADERSHIP AND  
9 RELIEF EFFORTS.

10  
11 WHEREAS, on April 27, 2011, an EF-5 Tornado began in  
12 Marion County, Alabama, where it raged for 25 miles with a  
13 path width of .75 miles; the tornado totally devastated the  
14 Town of Hackleburg, destroyed Phil Campbell, and was on the  
15 ground for 132 miles, dissipating in Franklin County,  
16 Tennessee; winds were estimated in excess of 200 miles per  
17 hour; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Martha Morrow learned of the tornado  
19 and its devastation while she was preparing for a scheduled  
20 trip to St. Louis for a planning session of the organization  
21 she serves as president, The American Optometric Association  
22 Foundation, Optometry Cares, which has as one of its Public  
23 Health programs, "Optometry's Fund for Disaster Relief," which  
24 has played an important role of assistance in the wake of  
25 natural disasters for several years; now the fund was called  
26 to action again with the tornado damage in Alabama; and

1                   WHEREAS, Dr. Morrow is the wife of our good friend  
2 and colleague, Representative Johnny Mack Morrow; knowing that  
3 her place was with her husband and friends and neighbors in  
4 Franklin County, she initiated a plan of action, securing  
5 national help from recognized organizations for disaster  
6 relief including the American Optometric Association, Lions  
7 Clubs International, and the Vision Service Plan; in addition,  
8 no patient in her own professional office needing care was  
9 turned down, whether requiring eye injury care or eyeglasses;  
10 and

11                   WHEREAS, in the days immediately following the  
12 destruction, Dr. Morrow met with Congressman Robert Aderholt,  
13 Governor Robert Bentley, Homeland Security, and Public Health  
14 officials; and

15                   WHEREAS, on May 6, 2011, Dr. Morrow helped  
16 coordinate a magic and musician show that more than 1,400  
17 students from Hackleburg, Phil Campbell, and East Franklin  
18 attended, an event that generated some badly needed smiles on  
19 the children's faces; and

20                   WHEREAS, on May 17, 2011, Dr. Morrow traveled with  
21 the principal of Phil Campbell Elementary School to receive  
22 gifts offered by students of Elvin Hill Elementary School in  
23 Shelby County for the purpose of rebuilding the Phil Campbell  
24 Elementary School playground that had been destroyed in the  
25 tornado, and she is continuing her work to secure additional  
26 funding to rebuild the playground; and

1                   WHEREAS, on June 13, 2011, a concert will be held  
2 entitled "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," and Dr. Morrow is  
3 involved totally in this project which is designed to bring  
4 desperately needed funds to rebuild Hackleburg, Phil Campbell,  
5 and East Franklin; now therefore,

6                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
7 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That it is a privilege to commend  
8 Dr. Martha Morrow for her leadership and relief efforts in the  
9 aftermath of the April 27, 2011, tornado outbreak in Alabama  
10 and it is directed that she receive a copy of this resolution  
11 as an expression of sincere gratitude for her contributions to  
12 her community and state.