

1 HR590
2 131412-1
3 By Representative Hall
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-MAY-11

MOURNING THE DEATH OF MARILYN HARRIS MABRY.

WHEREAS, it is with a profound sorrow that news is received of the death of Marilyn Harris Mabry of Huntsville, on April 28, 2011, at the age of 68 years; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn Mabry was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on September 14, 1943, to George E. Harris, Sr., and Chessie Harris; and

WHEREAS, the family moved to Huntsville in 1950 where Marilyn attended Oakwood Elementary and Oakwood Academy; she graduated from Council Training High School in 1961 and by 1965 she earned her B.A. from Oakwood College; soon thereafter she moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where she met and married Charles Webster Mabry; they adopted Mark Wesley Mabry; and

WHEREAS, Marilyn became a social worker after receiving her M.S.W. from Indiana University; her career included social work positions in public welfare, child welfare, and school social work; later she became the State Attendance Officer and school social work consultant with the Indiana Department of Education; due to her concerns regarding

1 teenage pregnancy, she founded the Indiana Council on
2 Adolescent Pregnancy, which was a statewide organization of
3 school personnel aimed at keeping pregnant students in school;
4 she received a year-long sabbatical from the IDOE to share her
5 expertise through a USAID training project regarding early
6 childbearing in West Africa; Mrs. Mabry returned to Huntsville
7 nine years later to tend to her elderly parents and with her
8 return she served as Director of Residential Care Services at
9 the Harris Home for Children, Inc., which was founded by her
10 parents; after her mother's death, Mrs. Mabry succeeded her
11 mother as Director of the Harris Family Foundation, Inc., and
12 continued to build on her legacy; and

13 WHEREAS, Mrs. Mabry was asked in 2000 to serve on a
14 United Way Committee to address the issue of the increasing
15 rate of homeless mothers with children out of which the agency
16 New Futures, Inc., was created and she served as director for
17 13 years; she became a social work professor at Alabama A and
18 M University for six years and retired in May of 2010; soon
19 thereafter she began her encore career with New Futures, Inc.,
20 and the Racial Harmony Coalition of Huntsville, which centered
21 on reducing poverty and promoting racial equality; and

22 WHEREAS, memories of Marilyn Mabry live on with her
23 son, Mark W. Mabry and his father, Charles W. Mabry; her
24 brothers and sister, George E. Harris, Jr., Chester L. Harris,
25 and Joan H. Robinson; her nieces and nephew, Lawanna L.
26 Harris, Deanna L. Harris, Krista Harris Cheatham, George E.

1 Harris, III; great nieces, Kaliah Williams, Sofia and Carmen
2 Cheatham; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Marilyn Harris
5 Mabry is recorded with deep sadness and by copy of this
6 resolution heartfelt sympathy is extended to her grieving
7 family and friends.