

1 HR604
2 131431-1
3 By Representatives Merrill, Poole and England
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-MAY-11

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF DR. GABRIEL LUCIO FERNANDEZ.
9

10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and regret that
11 news is received of the death of Dr. Gabriel Lucio Fernandez,
12 native of Puerto Rico, on April 24, 2011, at the age of 75;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Fernandez attended boarding school at
15 St. Paul's Catholic High School in Covington, Louisiana, and
16 later received his undergraduate and medical degrees at The
17 University of Madrid, Spain; while in medical school, Gabe
18 played professional basketball in Real Madrid, Spain; after
19 graduating from medical school, he served an internship at St.
20 Vincent's Hospital, a surgical residency at Lloyd Nolan
21 Hospital and a neurosurgical residency at University of
22 Alabama Hospital, all in Birmingham, Alabama; and

23 WHEREAS, Gabe practiced neurology and neurosurgery
24 in Tuscaloosa for more than 30 years and during that time
25 treated thousands of West Alabamians and East Mississippians;
26 he was a pioneer for neurosurgery in the late 1960s and 1970s
27 and also served as the team neurologist and neurosurgeon for

1 his beloved Alabama Crimson Tide football team for 31 years
2 under Head Coaches Paul W. Bryant, Ray Perkins, and Gene
3 Stallings; and

4 WHEREAS, Alabama football and his family were Gabe's
5 true passions in life; he will always be remembered for his
6 quick wit, great stories, and kindness to his friends,
7 patients, and family; it was important for Gabe to live life
8 to the fullest and he did so every day; he will be missed by
9 his family and all who were fortunate to know him throughout
10 his lifetime; and

11 WHEREAS, Gabe was preceded in death by his parents,
12 Restituto and Dr. Dolores Fernandez of San Juan, Puerto Rico;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, memories of Gabe will live on with his wife
15 of 50 years, Elizabeth Libby Smeraglia Fernandez; brother, Dr.
16 Restituto Fernandez Pla; his sons, Gabriel Mark Fernandez,
17 Michael R. Fernandez, Dr. David Claude Fernandez, and Andrew
18 Luis Fernandez; grandchildren, Davis, Gabbi, Libba, Gabe, and
19 Turner Fernandez; now therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
21 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Dr. Gabriel
22 Lucio Fernandez is recorded with deep sadness and by copy of
23 this resolution heartfelt sympathy is extended to his grieving
24 family and friends.