

1 HR609
2 131331-1
3 By Representative Bridges
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-MAY-11

COMMENDING AL COOK FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT.

WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that Al Cook is recognized for his distinguished service to the City of Opelika; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cook has announced his retirement from his position as Director of Economic Development as of May 31, 2011, having begun his exemplary employment in March 2003; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, the city has experienced substantial growth and progress, including the creation of more than 2,100 industrial jobs, representing a capital investment of over \$471 million to the community; and

WHEREAS, the statistics do not include Mr. Cook's active involvement in TigerTown or the recruitment of the future development of "Celebrate Alabama," which will mean thousands of retail jobs and millions of tourism dollars for Opelika; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the city has witnessed the growth of the Northeast Opelika Industrial Park from one tenant to six world-class companies; in addition, he was

1 instrumental in the recruitment of Gambro Renal Products,
2 which was the largest single capital investment in the history
3 of Lee County at the time, and the initial investment of \$120
4 million has since increased beyond \$160 million, with
5 improvements and modifications; and

6 WHEREAS, through the years and in all his endeavors,
7 Mr. Cook has earned respect for his exceptional abilities and
8 tireless dedication; he will be greatly missed by friends and
9 colleagues, who consider him the epitome of teamwork; now
10 therefore,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
12 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That on the occasion of his
13 retirement as Director of Economic Development with the City
14 of Opelika and in recognition of his dedicated service and
15 outstanding achievements, highest commendation is herein
16 extended to Al Cook, for whom a copy of this resolution is
17 provided as a token of sincere appreciation and best wishes.