

1 SJR121
2 130606-2
3 By Senator Brewbaker
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 05-MAY-11

1 SJR121

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4 ENROLLED, SJR121,

5 COMMENDING JOHN KENTON HUNT FOR ACHIEVEMENT AND
6 SERVICE.
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8 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that John
9 Kenton Hunt is recognized for his distinguished service to the
10 State of Alabama over the span of 36 years; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Hunt is retiring on July 31, 2011, from
12 his position with the Department of Mental Health; and

13 WHEREAS, he began his employment with the Department
14 of Mental Health in 1977 as an Alcoholism Prevention
15 Coordinator and was promoted steadily, fulfilling each
16 position with exceptional competence and commitment while
17 gaining experience in all aspects of community based
18 prevention and treatment services; and

19 WHEREAS, in November 1999, he was appointed as the
20 first Associate Commissioner for the Department of Mental
21 Health; and

22 WHEREAS, highlights of his career include: he
23 chaired the Alabama Commission for the Prevention and
24 Treatment of Substance Abuse; served on the Board of the
25 National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors

1 as the Region IV representative and was elected Vice President
 2 for Internal Affairs; chaired the National Association of
 3 State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors Annual Meeting
 4 Committee and hosted the 2008 Annual Meeting in Alabama, which
 5 brought more than 300 national substance abuse prevention and
 6 treatment experts to Alabama; and

7 WHEREAS, in addition, he was appointed by the Chief
 8 Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court to serve on the Drug
 9 Court Task Force in 2010 and chaired the Substance Abuse
 10 Treatment Subcommittee of the Drug Court Task Force; and

11 WHEREAS, during his tenure as Associate Commissioner
 12 of the Department of Mental Health, the budget for substance
 13 abuse prevention and treatment increased by 45 percent from
 14 \$33 million to \$48 million, while state funding grew by 300
 15 percent from \$4.2 million to \$17.7 million; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Hunt managed the public substance abuse
 17 system that provides prevention and treatment services to
 18 approximately 125,000 needy Alabamians annually; and

19 WHEREAS, he served as the Associate Commissioner for
 20 Substance Abuse Services until January 18, 2011, when he was
 21 assigned to guide the Department in the areas of Health Care
 22 Reform and Mental Health Parity; and

23 WHEREAS, among his honors and recognitions, Mr. Hunt
 24 received the 2011 Carl Nowell Leadership Award, which is
 25 presented to an individual selected by peers for "Hard Work

1 and Devotion" to the field of Drug Prevention, Treatment, and
2 Recovery; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That on the occasion of his
5 retirement and in recognition of his many outstanding
6 achievements and dedicated service, highest commendation is
7 herein extended to John Kenton Hunt, for whom a copy of this
8 resolution is provided as evidence of our esteem and
9 appreciation, along with best wishes in all future endeavors.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR121

Senate 05-MAY-11

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 25-MAY-11

By: Senator Brewbaker