

1 HR494
2 143464-1
3 By Representatives Black and Lindsey
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 16-MAY-12

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8 COMMENDING REPRESENTATIVE CRAIG FORD AS A 2012
9 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendation is extended to
12 Representative Craig Ford as a 2012 Legislator of the Year;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, first elected in 2000, our friend and
15 colleague Representative Ford ably serves the people of House
16 District 28 in Etowah County; and

17 WHEREAS, born in Gadsden, Representative Ford earned
18 his Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Auburn
19 University; and

20 WHEREAS, a dedicated and effective public servant,
21 Representative Ford has served with exceptional capability in
22 many civic endeavors; his roles of leadership include
23 membership on the Boards of the YMCA and Breakaway Ministries;
24 he is also a Little League Baseball coach; among his honors
25 and awards, he was named Darden Rehabilitation Person of the
26 Year in 2003, received the Friend of Labor Award in 2007, and

1 was inducted into the Senior Citizens Hall of Fame in 2006;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, in 2004, he received the "Golden Axe
4 Award," the highest award given by firefighters; in 2006 and
5 2010, Ford's peers in Montgomery honored him as Most
6 Outstanding Legislator; and

7 WHEREAS, Craig Ford has demonstrated both his
8 ability and his willingness to lead in many ways; he served in
9 the United States Army Reserve, attaining the rank of Captain;
10 receiving the Top Gun Award in his tank division in 1991; in
11 his community, he serves as an Associate Member of the Alabama
12 Retired Teachers Association, is an active member of the First
13 United Methodist Church of Gadsden; and

14 WHEREAS, Ford was elected House Minority Leader by
15 his colleagues in 2010; he serves on the Rules Committee, Ways
16 and Means Education Committee, and the Commerce and Small
17 Business Committee; and

18 WHEREAS, and during the current term in the House of
19 Representatives, Ford's strong focus on education and
20 employment has resulted in significant gains, both for Etowah
21 County and the State of Alabama; in education, he has been
22 instrumental in the development of seven new high schools in
23 Etowah County, and was instrumental in finding funding for the
24 PACT program to provide a college education for some 45,000
25 Alabama students; his ongoing efforts to keep quality
26 employers and quality jobs in the county, as well as
27 recruiting efforts for new employment opportunities,

1 positioned him to play an instrumental role in keeping the
2 Goodyear plant and its jobs in Gadsden, Alabama; now
3 therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
5 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby recognize and
6 commend Representative Craig Ford as a 2012 Legislator of the
7 Year.