

1 HJR55

2 148784-1

3 By Representatives Warren, Baker, Ball, Bandy, Barton, Baughn,
4 Beckman, Beech, Black, Boman, Boothe, Boyd, Bracy, Bridges,
5 Brown, Burdine, Buskey, Butler, Buttram, Carns, Chesteen,
6 Clouse, Coleman-Evans, Collins, Colston, Davis, DeMarco,
7 Drake, England, Farley, Faust, Fincher, Ford, Forte, Gaston,
8 Givan, Greer, Greeson, Grimsley, Hall, Hammon, Harper, Henry,
9 Hill, Holmes, Howard, Hubbard (J), Hubbard (M), Hurst, Ison,
10 Jackson, Johnson (K), Johnson (R), Johnson (W), Jones, Knight,
11 Laird, Lee, Lindsey, Long, Love, Mask, McAdory, McCampbell,
12 McClammy, McClendon, McClurkin, McCutcheon, McMillan, Melton,
13 Merrill, Millican, Mitchell, Moore (B), Moore (M), Morrow,
14 Newton (C), Newton (D), Nordgren, Patterson, Payne, Poole,
15 Rich, Roberts, Robinson (J), Robinson (O), Rogers, Sanderford,
16 Scott, Sessions, Shiver, Standridge, Todd, Treadaway, Tuggle,
17 Vance, Wallace, Weaver, Williams (D), Williams (J), Williams
18 (P), Wood and Wren

19 RFD:

20 First Read: 14-FEB-13

8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM JONES CHILDS.
9

10 WHEREAS, with profound sorrow and regret, we mourn
11 the death of Mr. William Jones "Bill" Childs of Tuskegee,
12 Alabama, on February 6, 2013, at the age of 89 years; and

13 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Childs leaves a void in
14 the lives of his loving family, his many friends, and a legion
15 of admirers for his accomplishments and extraordinary life;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, born on April 16, 1923, in Montgomery,
18 Alabama, the son of Idella Childs and Norman Childs, he grew
19 up in Marion; Mr. Childs was a Lincoln School graduate,
20 attended Alabama State University, and chose to become a
21 mechanic because he enjoyed working with his hands; and

22 WHEREAS, he was highly skilled and held the
23 distinction of repairing the aircraft of the acclaimed
24 Tuskegee Airmen during World War II; Mr. Childs was ranked the
25 82nd Best Aircraft Mechanic/Fabricator in all North America
26 and later also worked at Craig Air Force Base; he was a
27 Charter Member of Negro Airmen International and also a member

1 of Black Pilots of America, which was close to his heart, but
2 was most proud to be identified as one of the Tuskegee Airmen;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, for more than 37 years, he was a well-known
5 and respected businessman who owned and operated a Standard
6 Oil/Chevron Station; and

7 WHEREAS, in the late 1960s, Mr. Childs was elected
8 Justice of the Peace, the first Black elected official since
9 Reconstruction, and he served two terms for a total of eight
10 years in Macon County; and

11 WHEREAS, devoted to family and faith, he was the
12 father of one daughter, Joyce Marie, and two sons, William
13 Jones Childs, Jr., and Robert Wayne Childs; he was a member of
14 Washington Chapel AME Church, where he served with the
15 Progressive Men's Club and with the Trustees; and

16 WHEREAS, in addition to his parents and two of his
17 four siblings, he was predeceased by his beloved wife of 61
18 years, Barbara Childs, whom he met because she too worked with
19 the Tuskegee Airmen, as a dispatcher; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Childs was a valued member of the
21 community; although his presence will be greatly missed, his
22 legacy will endure and his memory will be cherished in the
23 hearts of those who were fortunate to know him; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. William Jones
26 Childs is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is

1 offered in tribute to his life, along with heartfelt sympathy
2 to his family, whose grief is shared by many.