

1 HR457
2 153691-1
3 By Representative Harper
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 09-MAY-13

8 HONORING GEORGE KOON, JR., ON BEING NAMED 2013 GORDO
9 PIONEER OF THE YEAR.

10
11 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that George
12 Koon, Jr., is recognized on being named 2013 Gordo Pioneer of
13 the Year by the Gordo Area Chamber of Commerce; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Koon is a native son who has added
15 immeasurably to the quality of life in Gordo, impacting
16 countless lives through an exemplary career in education and
17 many contributions to the community; and

18 WHEREAS, born December 23, 1923, to George and Rona
19 Koon, he grew up in hardship during the Great Depression,
20 including plowing with mules at his grandparents' farm and
21 helping tend the milk cows; during his childhood years, there
22 was no indoor plumbing, and his family had a water tank with a
23 windmill; he attended Fairview School and earned his diploma
24 from Gordo High School in 1943; and

25 WHEREAS, after serving with honor and distinction in
26 the Armed Forces during World War II, he worked various jobs
27 until attaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business

1 Education from Livingston Teacher's College and later earning
2 a Master's Degree and AA Certificate in School Administration
3 from The University of Alabama; and

4 WHEREAS, from 1950 until 1985, he was a highly
5 regarded teacher of Business Education at Gordo High School,
6 where he not only taught classes but supervised bus drivers,
7 refereed football games, and drove a bus for the Gordo High
8 School Band; he also raised chickens, owned and showed
9 Shetland ponies, and enjoyed camping, traveling to 48 states,
10 Canada, and Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Koon served as a member of the Gordo
12 Town Council for many years; he is a member of the Gordo First
13 Baptist Church, a Mason and active in the Eastern Star; in the
14 ninth decade of his remarkable life, he and his wife, Mary,
15 manage to maintain a household that includes two cats, Tiger
16 and Casper, and a dog, Tweety; and

17 WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Koon has earned
18 respect for his exceptional abilities and tireless dedication
19 to the betterment of his beloved hometown, and he is truly
20 deserving of the significant honor bestowed upon him; now
21 therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
23 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That in recognition of being named
24 2013 Gordo Pioneer of the Year, George Koon, Jr., is most
25 highly honored and commended, and this resolution is offered
26 with heartiest congratulations to him along with best wishes
27 in future endeavors.

