

1 HR15  
2 165221-1  
3 By Representative Hubbard  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 05-MAR-15

8 POSTHUMOUSLY RECOGNIZING WILLIAM T. DUMAS ON HIS  
9 INDUCTION INTO THE AUBURN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL ALUMNI  
10 ASSOCIATION HALL OF HONOR.

11  
12 WHEREAS, it is a tremendous privilege to  
13 posthumously recognize William T. Dumas on his outstanding  
14 achievement of being inducted into the Auburn University  
15 Agricultural Alumni Association Hall of Honor; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Dumas was born and reared in Chatom,  
17 Alabama, where agriculture was a way of life for him; after  
18 graduating as valedictorian of his high school class in 1940,  
19 he entered Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now Auburn  
20 University, where he was a member of Gamma Sigma Delta and  
21 graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural  
22 Engineering; he later returned to earn his Master's Degree in  
23 Agricultural Engineering; during his time at Auburn, he was  
24 greatly influenced by his mentor and friend, J.H. Neal, head  
25 of the Agricultural Engineering program; and

26 WHEREAS, following college, Mr. Dumas served with  
27 much honor and distinction in both the European and South

1 Pacific theatres, where he was a Unit Commander for the U.S.  
2 Army Corps of Engineers; he was appointed a first lieutenant  
3 in 1946 and was decorated with the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign  
4 Medal, the EAME Campaign Medal, the Philippine Liberation  
5 Medal, and the Victory Medal; he transferred to Retired  
6 Reserve as a lieutenant colonel in 1967 and retired from the  
7 U.S. Armed Forces as a lieutenant colonel in 1982; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Dumas returned to Auburn as a graduate  
9 teaching assistant in 1946 and was appointed to the full-time  
10 faculty in 1948, embarking upon his distinguished 35-year  
11 teaching and research career; Mr. Dumas oversaw the overall  
12 operation of the 370-acre Agricultural Engineering Research  
13 Unit in Marvyn, Alabama, where he coordinated, supervised, and  
14 assisted in the installation of all experiments conducted at  
15 the unit; and

16 WHEREAS, notably, Mr. Dumas initiated cotton  
17 mechanization research at Auburn University and gained  
18 widespread respect for his work in a broad variety of research  
19 fields including tillage, weed control, and ultra low-volume  
20 insecticide application; his teaching and mentorship of  
21 generations of students is greatly hailed; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Dumas served as a member of the  
23 Regional Cotton Mechanization Research Committee and as  
24 Chairman of the Alabama Section of the American Society of  
25 Agricultural Engineers; he retired from Auburn University as  
26 associate professor emeritus of Agricultural Engineering on  
27 October 1, 1983; and

1                   WHEREAS, Mr. Dumas was a faithful and devoted member  
2 of the Auburn United Methodist Church; he passed away in 1998  
3 and is survived by his beloved and devoted wife, Louise; sons,  
4 William and Robert; two daughters-in-law; a brother; four  
5 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; and

6                   WHEREAS, his memory and meritorious work will be  
7 celebrated at the 2015 Hall of Honor Banquet Thursday,  
8 February 5, 2015, at the Auburn Marriott Opelika Hotel and  
9 Conference Center at Grand National; and

10                  WHEREAS, Mr. Dumas cultivated an indelible legacy of  
11 excellence that is an enormous source of credit to the  
12 agricultural industry and the entire State of Alabama; now  
13 therefore,

14                  BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
15 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That William T. Dumas is  
16 posthumously honored and commended, and it is directed that a  
17 copy of this resolution shall be presented to his family in  
18 highest tribute to his memory.