

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

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