

1 HR17
2 165224-1
3 By Representative Hubbard
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 05-MAR-15

8 RECOGNIZING MILBORN N. CHESSER ON HIS INDUCTION INTO
9 THE AUBURN UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HALL OF
10 HONOR.
11

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

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Chesser was born in Ider, Alabama, in
17 1933 as the youngest of 10 children in a farm family greatly
18 affected by the Depression; a trip to Auburn with his fellow
19 4-H members ignited determination within him to pursue a
20 degree at Alabama Polytechnic Institute; upon the passage of
21 the G.I. Bill in 1944, he realized how to accomplish his goal;
22 in 1947, he joined the U.S. National Guard feigning to be
23 older than 14; three years later, he was deployed as a soldier
24 in the Army's 151st Engineer Combat Battalion to Korea for two
25 years, attaining the rank of master sergeant; and

26 WHEREAS, upon returning to the U.S., he enrolled at
27 what is now Auburn University and earned his Bachelor of

1 Science Degree in Agricultural Education and a Master of
2 Science Degree in Poultry Husbandry; while still an
3 undergraduate at Auburn, he sold his car and used the money he
4 received as a down payment on a small poultry farm in Fyffe,
5 Alabama; his operation, Circle C Farms, encompassed 200 acres
6 and 17 poultry houses during its peak; he actively farmed
7 until 2008, when he was seriously injured in a fall from a
8 feed bin; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Chesser was a prominent successful
10 poultry producer for decades, but is most widely known for his
11 role as a civic and professional leader dedicated to the
12 service of others and improvement of lives; he and a small
13 group of investors established the Bank of Fyffe in 1973 out
14 of a concern for the lack of financing available to existing
15 and potential poultry farmers; the meritorious entity, renamed
16 Horizon Bank following expansions, has enabled countless
17 farmers in northeast Alabama and beyond to remain in business;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Chesser's affiliations have included
20 the Horizon Bank's Board of Directors, the DeKalb County Board
21 of Education, the Farmers Telephone Cooperative Board of
22 Directors, and the DeKalb County Farmers Federation; he was
23 actively involved with the Alabama Farmers Federation, which
24 he served as secretary-treasurer for 21 years; and

25 WHEREAS, he and his beloved and devoted wife, Anne,
26 married in 1952 and are faithful and devoted members of the
27 Fyffe United Methodist Church, where he served as Chairman of

1 the administrative board for 35 years; their blissful union
2 has been blessed with two daughters and four grandchildren;
3 and

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

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

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
13 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Milborn N. Chesser is honored
14 and commended, and it is directed that a copy of this
15 resolution shall be presented to him in deepest admiration and
16 appreciation, along with sincere best wishes for the future.