

1 HJR114

2 174875-1

3 By Representatives Blackshear, Boothe, Martin, Ainsworth,
4 Alexander, Baker, Ball, Bandy, Beckman, Beech, Black, Boyd,
5 Bracy, Brown, Buskey, Butler, Carns, Chesteen, Clarke, Clouse,
6 Coleman, Collins, Crawford, Daniels, Davis, Drake, Drummond,
7 England, Farley, Faulkner, Faust, Fincher, Ford, Forte, Fridy,
8 Garrett, Gaston, Givan, Greer, Grimsley, Hall, Hammon, Hanes,
9 Harbison, Harper, Henry, Hill (J), Hill (M), Holmes (A),
10 Holmes (M), Howard, Hubbard, Hurst, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson
11 (K), Johnson (R), Jones, Knight, Lawrence, Ledbetter, Lee,
12 Lindsey, McCampbell, McClammy, McCutcheon, McMillan, Melton,
13 Millican, Mooney, Moore (B), Moore (M), Morrow, Nordgren,
14 Patterson, Pettus, Polizos, Poole, Pringle, Rich, Robinson,
15 Rogers, Rowe, Sanderford, Scott, Sells, Sessions, Shedd,
16 Shiver, South, Standridge, Todd, Treadaway, Tuggle, Wadsworth,
17 Warren, Weaver, Whorton (I), Whorton (R), Wilcox, Williams
18 (JD), Williams (JW), Williams (P), Wingo and Wood

19 RFD:

20 First Read: 01-MAR-16

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8 CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REPRESENTATIVE
9 LESLEY VANCE.
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11 WHEREAS, with utmost reverence and respect, we
12 uplift the inspiring life and legacy of our good friend and
13 colleague, Representative Lesley Vance, who served
14 continuously as a member of the Alabama House of
15 Representatives for 21 years until he passed away November 3,
16 2015; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Vance was born October 23, 1939, in
18 Pike County, Alabama, to the union of the late Jessie James
19 Vance and Minnie Bedsole Vance; he embarked upon his career in
20 the funeral service industry in 1957 at the age of 18 with
21 Britton and Dobbs Funeral Home; in 1975, he acquired the
22 funeral home and changed its name to Vance Memorial Chapel; in
23 1985, he opened Vance Brooks Funeral Home in Columbus,
24 Georgia; and

25 WHEREAS, while working in the funeral service
26 industry for 58 years, Mr. Vance compassionately served many

1 families in their time of need and sorrow; he was known for
2 treating everyone he encountered equally with utmost dignity
3 and respect; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Vance entered his first political race
5 at 22 years of age, and it was the only political race he ever
6 lost; in the following years, Mr. Vance earned widespread
7 respect and admiration for his remarkable public service; he
8 served as Coroner of Russell County for 27 years, requiring
9 him to be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week; he then
10 served as a member of the Russell County Commission for two
11 years; he then began his distinguished tenure as a member of
12 the Alabama House of Representatives, where he served on the
13 Transportation Committee, Health Committee, and the Banking
14 and Insurance Committee, of which he was chair; he was a
15 forceful advocate for his constituents and was proud to see
16 the completion of the Highway 431 South four lane project, the
17 completion of the 5th Avenue Extension, and the construction
18 of the Riverchase exits off of Highway 80, among other
19 projects; and

20 WHEREAS, civically involved, Mr. Vance served as a
21 member of the Phenix City Jaycees, the Golden Quarter Club,
22 the American Red Cross board, and the Phenix City Girls Club;
23 he was a faithful and devoted member of Epworth United
24 Methodist Church; and

25 WHEREAS, survivors include his beloved and devoted
26 wife, Patricia Whitlow "Pat" Vance, who was his best friend

1 and supporter; daughters, Leslie Ann Vance Gagnon (Joe) and
2 Carmen Brooks (Lance); one son, Christopher K. Clary; three
3 sisters, Sarah Abercrombie, Ruth Corbitt, and Louise Morris;
4 brothers, Landon Vance (Betty) and twin brother, Wesley Vance;
5 five grandchildren, Logan Vance, Jacob Brewer, Jared Brewer,
6 James Brooks, and Lauran Gagnon; and

7 WHEREAS, although his presence is greatly missed,
8 his memory is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those
9 who were fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of
12 Representative Lesley Vance, we are extremely grateful for his
13 abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute
14 to his legacy, as well as in heartfelt sympathy.