

1 HJR48

2 179654-1

3 By Representatives McCutcheon, Ainsworth, Alexander, Baker,  
4 Ball, Bandy, Beckman, Beech, Black, Blackshear, Boothe, 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, Holmes (A), Holmes (M), Howard,  
10 Hurst, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson (K), Johnson (R), Jones,  
11 Knight, Lawrence, Ledbetter, Lee, Lindsey, Martin, McCampbell,  
12 McClammy, McMillan, Melton, Millican, Mooney, Moore (B), Moore  
13 (M), Morrow, Nordgren, Patterson, Pettus, Polizos, Poole,  
14 Pringle, Rich, Robinson, Rogers, Rowe, Sanderford, Scott,  
15 Sells, Sessions, Shedd, Shiver, South, Standridge, Todd,  
16 Treadaway, Tuggle, Wadsworth, Warren, Weaver, Whorton (I),  
17 Whorton (R), Wilcox, Williams (JD), Williams (JW), Williams  
18 (P), Wingo and Wood

19 RFD:

20 First Read: 24-AUG-16

8 POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING MR. JAMES O. HELMS, JR., ON  
9 HIS SELECTION FOR THE ALABAMA AGRICULTURE PIONEER AWARD.  
10

11 WHEREAS, it is a tremendous privilege to  
12 posthumously honor Mr. James O. Helms, Jr., on his selection  
13 for the Alabama Agriculture Pioneer Award; and

14 WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Helms earned  
15 widespread admiration and respect for his tireless dedication  
16 and exceptional abilities and enriched countless lives through  
17 his passion for agriculture; and

18 WHEREAS, over the course of his distinguished career  
19 in agriculture, he taught vocational agriculture to the  
20 veterans of Coffee County, Alabama, oversaw the Alabama  
21 Polytechnic Institute's North Auburn Teaching Farm, served  
22 tractor dealers throughout the Southeast and used his  
23 expertise as an agricultural engineer to help farmers during  
24 his employment with the Ford Motor Company's Tractor Division  
25 in Atlanta, Georgia, served the Birmingham Ford Tractor  
26 Company, and owned and operated the lucrative Helms and Sons  
27 Tractor Company; and

1                   WHEREAS, Mr. Helms' extensive record of excellence  
2 includes his service as President of the Agribusiness Advisory  
3 Committee and acceptance of the Community and Economic  
4 Development Award presented by the Montgomery County Farmers  
5 Service and Welfare Association; and

6                   WHEREAS, Mr. Helms gained invaluable experience  
7 while growing up on the family peanut and row crop farm in  
8 Coffee County, Alabama; in 1939, his family was one of the  
9 first in the area to purchase a tractor to work their  
10 operation; with much grit and determination, Mr. Helms drove  
11 the tractor from the Helms' farm to the local U.S. Navy  
12 recruiting office and signed up to serve in World War II  
13 taking a break from his studies at Alabama Polytechnic  
14 Institute; he went on to serve a tour in the South Pacific and  
15 complete officer candidate school; after his service, he  
16 returned to Auburn to complete his degree in agricultural  
17 engineering in 1948; and

18                   WHEREAS, Mr. Helms and his beloved and devoted wife  
19 of 61 years had three children, Jim, Dick, and Jane; he passed  
20 away in 2007; and

21                   WHEREAS, Mr. Helms' significant contributions to the  
22 rewarding field of agriculture are a tremendous source of  
23 credit to the entire State of Alabama; his legacy will remain  
24 an inspiration for years to come; now therefore,

25                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
26 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Mr. James O. Helms, Jr., is

1 posthumously honored and commended, and this resolution is  
2 offered to his family in highest tribute to his legacy.