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2       182146-1  
3       By Senators Waggoner and Melson  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 14-FEB-17

8 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS.  
9 BARBARA ANN THORNTON GORDON.  
10

11 WHEREAS, we are deeply saddened to learn of the  
12 death of Barbara Ann Thornton Gordon of Athens, Alabama, on  
13 February 5, 2017, at 78 years of age, and we uplift her  
14 inspiring life and legacy with utmost reverence and respect;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the passing of Mrs. Barbara Ann Thornton  
17 Gordon leaves a void in the lives of her loving family, many  
18 friends, and the entire community, where she was highly  
19 regarded; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gordon was born August 16, 1938, in  
21 Limestone County, Alabama, to the union of Roy Lee Thornton  
22 and Birdie Eaves Thornton; she lived an exemplary life  
23 dedicated to Christ-like service and followed in the footsteps  
24 of her mother helping others whether it was delivering  
25 delicious home cooked meals, visiting the sick and bereaved,  
26 or providing canned vegetables from her extensive garden; and

1           WHEREAS, Mrs. Gordon united in Holy Matrimony with  
2 her beloved and devoted husband of more than 59 years, Malcolm  
3 (Flash) Gordon on September 18, 1957; after a brief period of  
4 residing in Texas while Mr. Gordon served in the United States  
5 Army, she returned to Athens and reared a family; later in  
6 life, Mrs. Gordon returned to school and earned her LPN  
7 certification; for many years, she was employed as the office  
8 nurse for Dr. James Smith; and

9           WHEREAS, her four grandchildren were among the  
10 greatest joys in Mrs. Gordon's life; she is remembered for her  
11 tireless work ethic, amazing, sweet-hearted nature, and a life  
12 lived in service to others; many considered her a best friend,  
13 and she was everything to everybody; she was a faithful and  
14 dedicated member of West Hobbs Street Church of Christ; and

15           WHEREAS, survivors include her dear husband;  
16 daughter, Lori Ann Ermert (Mike); son, David W. Gordon  
17 (Kelli); grandchildren, Amanda Gordon Abernathy (Phillip);  
18 Laura Gordon, Margaret Alice Ermert, and Anne Lauren Ermert;  
19 and siblings, Franklin Thornton (Telula), Ruby Smith (Buddy),  
20 Nancy Abernathy, J.B. Thornton (Marcella), Roy Alan Thornton,  
21 and Susan Harper (Richard); and

22           WHEREAS, Mrs. Barbara Ann Thornton Gordon was a  
23 valued member of the community; although her presence is  
24 greatly missed, her memory is cherished in the hearts and  
25 minds of all those who were fortunate enough to know her; now  
26 therefore,

1                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
2   HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of  
3   Mrs. Barbara Ann Thornton, we are extremely grateful for her  
4   abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute  
5   to her inspiring legacy, as well as in heartfelt sympathy to  
6   her family and friends.