

1 HJR211  
2 184503-1  
3 By Representative Carns  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 04-APR-17

8 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR.  
9 JAMES DUDLEY PEWITT.

10  
11 WHEREAS, we are deeply saddened to learn of the  
12 death of Mr. James Dudley Pewitt on March 14, 2017, at 86  
13 years of age, and we uplift his inspiring life and legacy with  
14 utmost reverence and respect; and

15 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. James Dudley Pewitt  
16 leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many friends,  
17 and the entire community, where he was highly regarded; and

18 WHEREAS, the accomplished Franklin, Tennessee,  
19 native attended Vanderbilt University and earned two Master's  
20 Degrees and a Doctoral Degree from the University of Southern  
21 California; he was named outstanding student in the Graduate  
22 School of Business with academic honors in Phi Kappa Phi,  
23 Sigma Xi, Beta Gamma Sigma, and Omicron Delta Kappa; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Pewitt served with much honor and  
25 distinction as a member of the United States Air Force; during  
26 his distinguished career, he served as a member of the 97th  
27 Fighter Squadron, as a test pilot, as Aide de Camp to two

1 commanding generals, and ultimately as Special Assistant to  
2 the Secretary of the Air Force (Finance); he flew more than  
3 100 combat missions in Vietnam as an F-4 pilot and as vice  
4 commander of the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing; highly  
5 decorated, he earned the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf  
6 cluster, the Bronze Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross with  
7 three oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with 11 oak leaf  
8 clusters, and at least 10 other honors; and

9 WHEREAS, after providing 23 years of laudable  
10 service and attaining the rank of Colonel, Mr. Pewitt retired  
11 from the Air Force and joined the staff at the University of  
12 Alabama at Birmingham, where he progressed through the ranks  
13 to become Senior Vice President for Administration; he was  
14 active in numerous civic organizations in his adopted city and  
15 he was a graduate of Leadership Birmingham and Leadership  
16 Alabama; his love of aviation led him to serve as Chair of the  
17 Board and Director of the Southern Museum of Flight; he was a  
18 faithful and devoted member of Canterbury United Methodist  
19 Church; and

20 WHEREAS, survivors include his beloved and devoted  
21 wife of 64 years, Betty Hightower Pewitt; his three sons,  
22 Ransom D. (Laura), James P. (Angela), and Ted (Catherine)  
23 Pewitt; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother,  
24 Gale Pewitt; and several nieces and nephews; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Pewitt was a valued member of the  
26 community; although his presence is greatly missed, his memory

1 is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those who were  
2 fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

3                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of  
5 Mr. James Dudley Pewitt, we are extremely grateful for his  
6 abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute  
7 to his legacy, as well as in heartfelt sympathy to his family  
8 and friends.