

1 SJR79
2 185004-2
3 By Senators Whatley and Dial
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 11-APR-17

1 SJR79

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4 ENROLLED, SJR79,

5 RECOGNIZING APRIL 13, 2017, AS BENNIE ADKINS DAY.

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7 WHEREAS, we take great pride and pleasure in
8 recognizing April 13, 2017, as Bennie Adkins Day in the State
9 of Alabama; a native of Opelika, Alabama, Adkins was drafted
10 into the United States Army in 1956; and

11 WHEREAS, while serving in the Special Forces,
12 Command Sergeant Major Bennie G. Adkins served three tours in
13 Vietnam and later led training at Fort Sherman's Jungle School
14 in the Panama Canal Zone; after a career of distinguished
15 service, he retired in 1978; and

16 WHEREAS, following retirement, Adkins earned
17 multiple degrees from Troy University, established Adkins
18 Accounting Service, Inc., serving as CEO for 22 years, and
19 taught night classes at Southern Union Junior College and
20 Auburn University; and

21 WHEREAS, during his distinguished service, Adkins
22 received numerous awards and decorations including the
23 Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal,
24 Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct
25 Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces

Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Bravery Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Combat Infantryman Badge, Special Forces Tab, U.S. Army Master Parachutist Badge, Vietnamese

WHEREAS, known for his extraordinary heroism and selflessness in close combat, Adkins demonstrated great courage rescuing wounded comrades and bringing them to a more secure position; his meritorious military career reflects great credit upon himself and his country; and

WHEREAS, earning widespread respect for his dedicated service and leadership, retired Command Sergeant Major Bennie G. Adkins was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Barack Obama on September 15, 2014; and

WHEREAS, respected by all who know him, his service to the citizens of Alabama and the United States has distinguished him as a true American Hero; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we take great pleasure in recognizing April 13, 2017, as Bennie Adkins Day in Alabama, and it is directed that a copy of this resolution be presented to him, with highest praise, appreciation, and sincere best wishes for all future endeavors.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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SJR79

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Senate 11-APR-17

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I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

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Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

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Adopted: 13-APR-17

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By: Senator Whatley