

1 HR15
2 204254-1
3 By Representative Wheeler
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 04-FEB-20

8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. ELMER B. HARRIS.
9

10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
11 death on December 23, 2019, of Mr. Elmer B. Harris of
12 Birmingham, Alabama, at the age of 80 years; and

13 WHEREAS, his passing leaves a void in the lives of
14 his loving family, many friends, and the entire community,
15 where he was highly regarded; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was born in Clanton, Alabama,
17 where he attended elementary and high school; he was a
18 graduate of Auburn University where he earned two degrees in
19 Electrical Engineering and a Master's Degree in Business
20 Administration; through the years, he received several
21 Honorary Doctorate degrees from other universities; and

22 WHEREAS, his career at Southern Company spanned a
23 total of 44 years; he began his career at Alabama Power as a
24 co-op student and progressed through the ranks to Chairman and
25 CEO from 1989-2002; from 1984-1989, he was employed at Georgia
26 Power where he was responsible for getting Vogel Nuclear Plant
27 on line; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris enjoyed a military career in the
2 Air National Guard where he was able to achieve his life-long
3 dream to fly jet aircraft; he trained to fly several of these
4 jets at Webb Air Force Base and then completed his career at
5 Dannelly Air base in Montgomery, Alabama; his last assignment
6 was with the State organization of the Air Guard; he retired
7 as a Lieutenant Colonel; and

8 WHEREAS, among his many accomplishments and
9 community service, he was instrumental in the founding of the
10 Economic Development Partnership of Alabama; one of the
11 results of this venture was the coming of Mercedes Automobile
12 Company to Alabama; he served as a member of the Board of
13 Trustees of Samford University and Honorary Consul General to
14 Japan from the State of Alabama; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was a faithful and dedicated
16 member of Dawson Memorial Baptist Church and Agape Life Group;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents,
19 Lera Mae Mitchell and Alton C. Harris; and

20 WHEREAS, survivors include his beloved wife of 57
21 years, Glenda Steele Harris; daughter, Lori Elmore (David);
22 son, Tommy Harris (Suzanne); grandchildren, Carlyn Tyree
23 (Brent), Harrison King, Sarah King, Connor King, Ashley
24 Meinhhardt (Daniel), Austin Harris, Houston Elmore, and Cade
25 Elmore; great-grandson, John Thomas Tyree; brothers; Curtis
26 Harris and James R. Harris (Ethamae); and a host of other
27 family and friends; and

1 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
2 missed, the memory of Mr. Harris will be cherished in the
3 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
5 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. Elmer B.
6 Harris is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is
7 offered in tribute to his life and with heartfelt sympathy to
8 his family, whose grief is shared by many.