

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

MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. ELMER B. HARRIS.

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

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

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

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

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris enjoyed a military carer 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 Meinhardt (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.