

1 SJR36

2 COMMENDING MR. WENDELL HUDSON, THE UNIVERSITY OF  
3 ALABAMA'S FIRST BLACK SCHOLARSHIP-ATHLETE, FOR HAVING HIS  
4 JERSEY NUMBER RETIRED.

5  
6 WHEREAS, it is a great honor to extend highest  
7 commendations to Mr. Wendell Hudson, The University of  
8 Alabama's first black scholarship-athlete, for having his  
9 jersey number retired during a ceremony at halftime of the  
10 Alabama-LSU basketball game at Coleman Coliseum; and

11 WHEREAS, in accordance with Mr. Hudson's wishes,  
12 future Crimson Tide basketball players will still be able to  
13 wear his number 20; however, his jersey will remain  
14 displayed in the coliseum's rafters, along with banners  
15 signifying conference championships and post-season  
16 appearances; also, a men's basketball scholarship has been  
17 endowed in his honor, and the uniforms of The University of  
18 Alabama student-athletes will each feature a "WH" patch for  
19 the remainder of the winter and spring sport seasons; Mr.  
20 Hudson is one of the most decorated student-athletes in  
21 Crimson Tide men's basketball history; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Hudson was recruited by the late C.M.  
23 Newton after an incredible career at Parker High School in  
24 Birmingham, Alabama; during the 1969 to 1970 season, he  
25 became a member of the freshman team at The University of  
26 Alabama and joined the varsity ranks for the next three  
27 years; during his career, he scored 1,768 points and grabbed

1 1,197 rebounds in 93 games, averaging 19.0 points and 12.9  
2 rebounds; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1973, Mr. Hudson was named a First  
4 Team All-American after averaging 20.7 points and 12.1  
5 rebounds as a senior; that same season, he became Alabama's  
6 first Southeastern Conference Player of the Year, leading  
7 the league in scoring; he helped the Crimson Tide secure a  
8 second-place finish in the Southeastern Conference and make  
9 its first postseason appearance in program history,  
10 advancing to the semifinals of the National Invitation  
11 Tournament; in addition, he was selected in the second round  
12 of the 1973 National Basketball Association draft by the  
13 Chicago Bulls and played for the American Basketball  
14 Association's Memphis Tams; in 2000, he was honored as a  
15 Southeastern Conference Legend and was recognized by The  
16 University of Alabama with its Paul W. Bryant Alumni-Athlete  
17 Award, which recognizes former athletes who accomplish  
18 astounding achievements after leaving UA; in 2001, he was  
19 inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Hudson remains a remarkable  
21 phenomenon who inspires countless athlete-students; now  
22 therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
24 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Mr. Wendell Hudson, The  
25 University of Alabama's first black scholarship-athlete, is  
26 warmly commended for having his jersey number retired, and  
27 we hereby dedicate this resolution to him with heartiest

1        admiration, along with sincere best wishes for continued  
2        success during his retirement.