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2       216588-2  
3       By Senator Waggoner  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 01-FEB-22

MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. MICHAEL DWAYNE ERMERT.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death on January 12, 2022, of Mr. Michael Dwayne "Mike" Ermert of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, at the age of 60; 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. Ermert was born on June 17, 1961, in Fort Worth, Texas, to Mary Gayle Hargroder Ermert and Gene Oliver Ermert; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ermert graduated from Athens High School, where he met and fell in love with Lori Ann Gordon Ermert, and they were soon married; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ermert earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from The University of Alabama; as an undergraduate, he was selected as an Outstanding Junior in Broadcast and Film and as a Distinguished Military Graduate, and he was also a United States Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Scholarship Recipient; he was a member of

1 Lambda Chi Alpha Social Fraternity, where he served as  
2 President and continued his lifetime involvement with the  
3 fraternity in various leadership roles; after graduating, he  
4 was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army and  
5 rose to the rank of Captain; utilizing his communications  
6 degree, he served as the Public Information Officer  
7 responsible for all media coverage of the United States Army  
8 Signal Center and Fort Gordon, both in Augusta, Georgia; he  
9 earned numerous military awards, including the Meritorious  
10 Service Medal; and

11 WHEREAS, upon completion of active duty, Mr. Ermert  
12 returned to The University of Alabama and studied law; some of  
13 his achievements included being recognized as a Hugo L. Black  
14 Scholar; being on the Alabama Law Review, where he was elected  
15 to the Order of the Coif, an honor for those who graduate in  
16 the top 10 percent of their class; being in the Order of the  
17 Barristers; proudly participating on the John A. Campbell Moot  
18 Court Board; being a recipient of the William G. West, Jr.  
19 Scholarship and the Neal C. Newell Scholarship; and  
20 distinguishing himself with the Dean Thomas W. Christopher  
21 Prize for Excellence in Wills and Trusts; and

22 WHEREAS, upon graduating from law school, Mr. Ermert  
23 joined the Birmingham Law Firm of Hare, Wynn, Newell, and  
24 Newton, LLP and was a practicing attorney for over 30 years;  
25 during his career, he was a member of the Alabama State Bar,  
26 Birmingham Bar Association, Birmingham Bar Foundation Board of  
27 Directors, American Bar Association, Alabama Association for

1 Justice, The American Association for Justice, Alabama Civil  
2 Justice Foundation, American Board of Trial Advocates, and the  
3 Birmingham Volunteer Lawyers Program; he served in leadership  
4 roles in most of these organizations, and he was also a much  
5 sought-after speaker at many seminars on various legal topics;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, as a faithful follower of Jesus Christ, Mr.  
8 Ermert was a dedicated member of Homewood Church of Christ for  
9 more than 30 years; he served on the Missions Committee for  
10 over 10 years; taught Bible classes and served as a leader of  
11 a major capital campaign; and met on Friday mornings with a  
12 close group of men for Bible Study, prayer, and encouragement  
13 for over 27 years; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Ermert loved encouraging his two  
15 daughters in their numerous talents and activities, traveling  
16 with his family, being involved with his church family,  
17 helping people, attending The University of Alabama Football  
18 games, and playing golf; as an avid golfer, he was a member of  
19 the Vestavia Hills Country Club and the "Hoofers" Saturday  
20 morning golf group; he enjoyed walking the course; taking golf  
21 trips; appreciating the wonderful camaraderie of the group;  
22 and passionately enforcing the rules, which earned him the  
23 nickname, "Deputy Dawg"; additionally, he was active in  
24 various community and civic organizations, including the  
25 Monday Morning Quarterback Club and the Downtown YMCA, where  
26 he served on the Board of Management; and

1               WHEREAS, Mr. Ermert was preceded in death by his  
2 mother; and

3               WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of more than 38  
4 years, Lori Ann Gordon Ermert; daughters, Alice Ermert Mottern  
5 (DJ) and Anne Lauren Ermert; father, Gene Ermert; sister,  
6 Alisa Erickson; and brother, Bart Adams; and

7               WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly  
8 missed, the memory of Mr. Ermert will be cherished in the  
9 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

10              BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Michael  
12 Dwayne "Mike" Ermert is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
13 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with  
14 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by  
15 many.