

1 SJR24

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3 By Senators Allen, Singleton, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley,
4 Butler, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott,
5 Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Holley, Jones, Livingston,
6 Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts,
7 Sanders-Fortier, Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Smitherman,
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Whatley and Williams

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 02-FEB-22

8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF LONGTIME TUSCALOOSA NEWS
9 SPORTS EDITOR AND COLUMNIST, MR. CECIL HURT.
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12 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we mourn
13 the death of longtime Tuscaloosa News Sports Editor and
14 Columnist, Mr. Cecil Hurt of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on November
15 23, 2021, at the age of 62; and

16 WHEREAS, for nearly 40 years, Mr. Hurt was a Sports
17 Editor and Columnist for The Tuscaloosa News; he was born in
18 Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and grew up in Huntsville, Alabama; he
19 was a graduate of The University of Alabama; he joined the
20 staff of the Tuscaloosa News in 1982, which was Paul "Bear"
21 Bryant's final season; he rose to Sports Editor in 1989 and
22 was the newspaper's primary Sports Columnist through the
23 illustrious careers of The University of Alabama's coaches Ray
24 Perkins, Gene Stallings, Mike Shula, and Nick Saban; and

25 WHEREAS, during his career at The Tuscaloosa News,
26 his columns covered The University of Alabama's football,
basketball, baseball, and other sports; he was part of The

Tuscaloosa News team that won a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the 2011 tornado that devastated Tuscaloosa; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hurt received many accolades and awards, including being the fifth recipient in 2019 of the Mel Allen Media Award from the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame; he was the 2016, 2018, and 2019 National Sports Media Association's Alabama Sportswriter of the Year; he won more than a dozen Top 10 National Awards from the Associated Press Sports Editors in several categories including Column Writing, Breaking News, and Project Reporting; he received numerous state honors from the Alabama Sports Writers Association, Alabama Press Association, and Associated Press Managing Editors; he was also honored several times with National Awards for his Column Writing by the Associated Press Sports Editors, as well as for Breaking News and Project Reporting; and

WHEREAS, along with his writing talent, he had a very loyal following; his column was considered must-read material for Alabama sports fans; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his mother, Carol Messina; brother, Cary Hurt (Aimee); and sister, Caren Hidgon (Ray); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hurt was an accomplished journalist and a valued member of the community and state; his presence will be greatly missed by all those who were privileged to know him; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Cecil Hurt is

1 recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is offered in
2 tribute to his life, along with heartfelt sympathy to his
3 grieving family.