

1 SJR88
2 218726-1
3 By Senators Allen, Reed, Waggoner, Singleton, Givhan, Orr,
4 Roberts, Holley, Livingston, Butler, McClendon, Marsh, Stutts,
5 Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Chambliss, Chesteen,
6 Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott, Figures, Gudger, Hatcher,
7 Jones, Melson, Price, Sanders-Fortier, Scofield, Sessions,
8 Shelnutt, Smitherman, Weaver, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 17-MAR-22

COMMENDING SENATOR RICHARD SHELBY FOR HIS DEDICATED
SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

WHEREAS, Senator Richard Shelby has served the State of Alabama in the United States Congress since 1979, first as a Representative of the 7th Congressional District for four terms, and then as United States Senator following election in 1986; in February of 2021, Senator Shelby announced that he would not seek reelection after more than four decades of representing this great state; and

WHEREAS, born on May 6, 1934, in Birmingham, Alabama, to Alice S. and Ozie Houston Shelby; Richard Shelby graduated from Hueytown High School in Hueytown, Alabama, in 1953; he went on to receive his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and practiced law in Tuscaloosa for 15 years; this legal and legislative education would serve him well throughout his career, to the benefit of the people he represented; and

WHEREAS, Richard Shelby worked as a city prosecutor in Birmingham from 1963 to 1971; during that time, he also

1 served as a U.S. magistrate for the Northern District of
2 Alabama and as Special Assistant Attorney General of Alabama;
3 he was elected to the Alabama Senate in 1970, where he served
4 the 16th State Senate District until his election to the
5 United States House of Representatives in 1978; and

6 WHEREAS, immediately upon his inauguration into
7 Congress, Richard Shelby's conservatism was apparent; he
8 immediately began crafting and introducing legislation to
9 provide for a "flat tax," to decrease the size of government,
10 and to oppose what he labeled "government bailouts," which
11 have remained his priorities throughout his tenure; he has
12 introduced a flat tax in every Congress since his election to
13 the United States Senate, as well as a Balanced Budget
14 amendment to the United States Constitution; and

15 WHEREAS, Senator Shelby's unwavering commitment to
16 low taxes and small government earned him seats on all of the
17 following committees: The Senate Committee on Appropriations,
18 as former chair and current vice chair; Appropriations
19 Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, of which he
20 served as chair; Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, of
21 which he served as vice chair; Appropriations Subcommittee on
22 Energy and Water Development; Appropriations Subcommittee on
23 Homeland Security; Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
24 Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, of
25 which he served as chair; Appropriations Subcommittee on
26 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related
27 Agencies; the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban

1 Affairs, of which he formerly served as chair and is the
2 longest-serving member in the history of the United States;
3 the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, of which he
4 formerly served as chair; the Senate Committee on Environment
5 and Public Works; and the Joint Committee of Congress on the
6 Library, of which he formerly served as vice chair; and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Richard Shelby has always had an
8 eye for helping those within his state; he has played an
9 instrumental role in supporting Department of Defense,
10 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Federal
11 Bureau of Investigation projects throughout the state, most
12 notably in Huntsville; his support of all universities in
13 Alabama is well-known, through securing research dollars and
14 helping to build state-of-the-art campus infrastructure; in
15 addition, he has maintained a strong focus on the Mobile area
16 through support of the Port of Mobile and the Alabama Port
17 Authority, the Mobile airport, and the area's shipbuilding
18 industry, among other local and statewide interests; and

19 WHEREAS, throughout his time in public service,
20 Senator Richard Shelby has been supported and strengthened by
21 his loving wife, Annette Nevin Shelby, with whom he has raised
22 two sons, Richard Craig, Jr., and Claude Nevin; in addition to
23 being the Senator's faithful companion, she independently
24 claims many accomplishments, including: A Bachelor of Arts and
25 Master of Arts from the University of Alabama and a Ph.D. from
26 Louisiana State University; membership in Phi Beta Kappa and
27 Phi Kappa Phi; a tenure of two decades as a professor in the

1 McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University, where
2 she was the first woman to become a full tenured professor;
3 and service as director of both the Georgetown graduate and
4 undergraduate programs at Oxford University; her cumulative
5 teaching experience exceeds 30 years, and she was named
6 professor emerita at Georgetown University in 1991; after 50
7 years together, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shelby are truly an
8 Alabama power couple for the ages; and

9 WHEREAS, the endless efforts of Senator Richard
10 Shelby throughout his time in Congress were felt here in
11 Alabama, as his tenure directly coincided with, and
12 indubitably helped ensure, increased prosperity, industrial
13 relevance, and economic advancement throughout the state; a
14 humble leader and a true statesman, the world has seen only a
15 select few Alabamians of such character and quality, and he
16 has represented this state and its peoples in the best manner
17 imaginable; now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That United States Senator Richard
20 Shelby is hereby commended for his dedicated service to the
21 State of Alabama, and that this resolution is offered to him
22 as a mere token of our immense gratitude.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this body sends its
24 best wishes to Senator Richard Shelby in all his future
25 endeavors, which are bound to occur, but hopes and prays that,
26 among those endeavors, he is able to find some time to sit

1 under his own vine and fig tree, and appreciate the fruits of
2 his labors in peace.