

SJR84 INTRODUCED



1 N5LHTT-1
2 By Senators Stewart, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell,
3 Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman,
4 Coleman-Madison, Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher,
5 Hovey, Jones, Kelley, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed,
6 Roberts, Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman,
7 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams
8 RFD:
9 First Read: 24-May-23
10 2023 Regular Session



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4 SJR_____ CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE
5 GEORGE PATRICK EVANS.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
8 death of the Honorable George Patrick Evans of Selma,
9 Alabama, on May 15, 2023, at the age of 78; and

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

13 WHEREAS, Mayor Evans earned a football scholarship in
14 Kansas where he received his Bachelor of Education Degree;
15 he earned his Master of Education Degree from the University
16 of West Alabama; he worked as an educator with a focus on
17 special education before becoming the first Black
18 Superintendent of the Dallas County School System; and

19 WHEREAS, Mayor Evans was a longtime advocate and
20 public servant for the residents of Dallas County, Alabama;
21 after his years on the board of education, he served 16
22 years as the first African American President of the Selma
23 City Council; in 2008, he was elected Mayor of Selma and
24 served two terms; and

25 WHEREAS, during his tenure as mayor, Mr. Evans was a
26 strong voice and tireless fighter for the city and its
27 people; he worked to create jobs and bring vital federal
28 resources to the city and the county; he worked to

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29 revitalize downtown Selma and unite the community; as mayor,
30 he worked for consensus and amicable resolutions and
31 consistently focused on improving the quality of life for
32 the people he served; he was passionate about moving Selma
33 forward; his steadfast leadership inspired others to lead;
34 he was a mentor, a neighbor, and a friend to the residents
35 of Dallas County and Selma; and

36 WHEREAS, Mayor Evans was among the most influential
37 African Americans in basketball officiating in Alabama and
38 the Southeast; he officiated NCAA tournament games,
39 including an Elite Eight game; he spent more than 30 years
40 officiating SWAC games and served as the conference's
41 director of men's and women's officials for over a decade;
42 and he graded officials for the SEC at The University of
43 Alabama home basketball games; and

44 WHEREAS, after retirement from public service, Mayor
45 Evans continued to advocate for and work with special needs
46 children; he organized the Evans Special Benefit Fund to
47 host an annual golf tournament to raise funds for agencies
48 that serve special needs children in Selma and Dallas
49 County; and

50 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
51 missed, the memory of Mayor Evans will be cherished by all
52 who knew and loved him; now therefore,

53 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
54 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of the Honorable
55 George Patrick Evans is recorded with deep sadness, and this
56 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with



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57 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by
58 many.

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