HR84

W4IRE99-1

By Representatives Robertson, Lovvorn

RFD:

First Read: 05-Mar-24

HR____ COMMENDING TECHNICAL SERGEANT AMBERS E. HANSON FOR PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, highest commendations are conveyed to Technical Sergeant Ambers E. Hanson for personal and professional achievements; and

WHEREAS, centenarian Ambers Hanson, born July 31, 1923, has dedicated much of his life to the service of his country and at great personal sacrifice; he interrupted his high school education to serve in World War II and his university education to serve in the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, at the age of 19, Mr. Hanson left high school and his family farm in Cleburne County to enlist in the United States Army Air Corp where he was assigned to serve as a radio operator on B-17 and B-24 aircraft running bombing missions overseas; during training, his plane crashed, and he survived; he was stationed in Mendlesham, England, and flew 25 missions before he reached the age of 21 as a member of the "Mighty Eighth" 8th Air Force, 34th Bomb Group, 391st Bomb Squadron; the name of the B-17 he flew on with his crew was "Battlin' Butch"; the crew flew bombing missions in France, Germany, and Czechoslovakia, as well as food drops over Holland; for his service, Technical Sergeant Hanson earned the Air Medal with three oak leaf

clusters, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two bronze stars, and the World War II Victory Medal; and

WHEREAS, following the war, Mr. Hanson accomplished the brave goal of returning to high school as an adult; the principal was impressed by his determination and dedication and encouraged him to pursue a college education; he first enrolled at West Georgia College, now part of the University of Georgia, for a year and a half; he then transferred to Auburn University, which was still Alabama Polytechnic Institute, until he was called to serve again; he served one year in the Korean War and returned to Auburn to resume his education and graduated with a degree in agricultural economics in 1952; for 35 years, he continued to serve others with the Soil Conservation Service combating soil erosion and supporting farmers across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Ambers Hanson's life story is a testament to resilience, the pursuit of knowledge, and a commitment to serving others; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Representatives Robertson and Lovvorn extend highest commendations to United States Veteran, Ambers E. Hanson, for his many personal and professional accomplishments that he pursued in service to his country, both in combat and as a civilian; this resolution is offered to him as evidence of that regard with best wishes for continued prosperity.