HR94

98YVBMB-1

By Representative Shaver

RFD:

First Read: 05-Mar-24

HR____ CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CHRIS ABNEY ZEIGLER DENDY, M.S.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death on July 8, 2023, of Chris Abney Zeigler Dendy at the age of 79; and

WHEREAS, her passing leaves a void in the lives of her loving family, many friends, and the entire community where she was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was born on March 2, 1944, in Lafayette, Georgia, to Judge W.L. and Lillian Abney; she earned degrees from both the University of Georgia and Florida State University; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was recognized nationally and internationally as an expert on attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and executive function deficits (EFD); her strong influence and compassion enriched the lives of countless individuals and organizations; she was a popular speaker at ADHD training events for parents and professionals offering a welcomed message of hope and devising more lasting and impactful solutions; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy served as a teacher, school psychologist, counselor, local and state mental health administrator, lobbyist and CEO of a mental health advocacy organization, board director for multiple organizations,

speaker, and author during her 50-year plus career; she worked tirelessly to improve ADHD understanding, as well as the lives of children and adults impacted by ADHD and learning differences; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy authored five highly respected books, including *Teenagers with ADD & ADHD: A Guide for Parents*; *Teaching Teens with ADD, ADHD, and Executive Function Defectives*; *A Bird's Eye View of Life with ADHD and EFD ... Ten Years Later* with her son, Alex Zeigler, who was the inspiration for her work in this field; and *Launching Into Young Adulthood with ADHD ... Ready or Not!*, co-authored with Dr. Ruth Hughes; she authored and produced two videos, one with her late husband, Tommy; and her popular ADHD Iceberg poster has been published in several languages and has been recognized worldwide as one of the most effective graphics to convey the complexities of ADHD; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was a passionate advocate, role model, mentor, and an Alabama treasure; she created a network of professionals and advocates to continue her mission and legacy of ADHD and EFD education; she conducted four days of intensive training sessions on ADHD and EFD for eight years at her home in Alabama, which she called Camp Dendy, and through the years personally educated more than 80 individuals from the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was an active member in the nonprofit organization, Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) for more

than 30 years; she was the lead author for CHADD's ADHD Educator's Manual and co-founded its teacher-to-teacher training program; she was inducted into CHADD's Hall of Fame in 2006 and received CHADD's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was preceded in death by her parents and beloved husband, Robert Thomas "Tommy" Dendy; she is survived by her two sons, Alex Zeigler (Haley) and Steven Dendy (Sandra); daughter, Audrey Dendy Grabowski (Jay); five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sisters, Vicki Abney Ragsdale (Gaut), and Dr. Billie Abney; close friend, Sara Clark; and a host of other family, colleagues, and friends; and

WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly missed, the memory of Chris Dendy will be cherished in the hearts of all who knew and loved her; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Chris Abney Zeigler Dendy is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is offered in tribute to her life, along with heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared by many.