HJR97

NYL7J8J-1

By Representatives Sorrells, Lee, Clouse

RFD: RULES

First Read: 06-Mar-24

HJR___ NAMING A PORTION OF ALABAMA STATE ROUTE 52 IN HOUSTON COUNTY, ALABAMA, THE JOE R. CAROTHERS HIGHWAY.

WHEREAS, it is with the highest accolade that this body honors the memory of former State of Alabama Representative, Joe R. Carothers, by requesting that the Department of Transportation designate the portion of Alabama State Route 52 between the city limit sign of Taylor City and Alabama State Route 605 in Houston County, Alabama, as the Joe R. Carothers Highway; and

WHEREAS, Joe R. Carothers was a gentleman farmer, family man, teacher, and public servant with the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Alabama from 1974 to 2006; he graduated from Auburn University in 1959 and had a 30-year career as an Agriculture Teacher in Houston County Schools before serving 32 years with the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Representative Carothers was an influential voice and leader representing the Wiregrass; he was an advocate for agriculture in the state and was recognized for his work in designating Landmark Park as the official Alabama Agricultural Museum and leading the Tri-State Junior Beef Expo in conjunction with the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, State Department of Education, and the State Department of Agriculture and Industries; he served as past

president of the Houston County Farmers Federation and influenced the use of the Houston County Farm Center; he initiated the National Peanut Festival Junior Beef Cattle Show for youth exhibitors, and was a member and past president of the Tri-State Beef Cattle Expo Board of Directors; served as chairman of the Houston County Steer Show and supported the Houston County Heifer Show; and

WHEREAS, Representative Carothers was instrumental in growing community and economic development opportunities and growing the Wiregrass economy with his championship of the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority's mission to provide low-cost, reliable electricity to citizens of Alabama through its formation in 1981; providing access to health care through numerous legislative acts to support the Healthcare Authority laws; through recognition by the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce for his work in bringing meaningful economic development opportunities to the area, including Michelin Tire Corporation and McLane Company, Incorporated, as two examples; and

WHEREAS, Representative Carothers dedicated his life to serving his constituents and the residents of Alabama with fairness and distinction; he was a devoted longtime member of First united Methodist Church in Dothan, Alabama; he was a trusted friend and supporter of the Wiregrass Area Food Bank; his manner was genuine and public service sincere; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of the

significant and lasting contributions of Representative Joe Carothers to the Legislature of Alabama, the people of his district, and the residents of the State of Alabama, the Department of Transportation is encouraged to coordinate with local governing officials to consider naming the portion of Alabama State Route 52 between the city limit sign of Taylor City and Alabama State Route 605 in Houston County, Alabama, as the Joe R. Carothers Highway and to erect appropriate signs or markers, consistent with applicable requirements and laws, in recognition of this designation.