

HR106 INTRODUCED



1 HR106
2 52X4663-1
3 By Representative Stubbs
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 07-Mar-24



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4 HR_____ COMMENDING POPCORN ON HER RETIREMENT AS THE SERVICE
5 DOG AT WETUMPKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
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8 WHEREAS, commendations and congratulations are
9 extended to Popcorn on the occasion of her retirement as the
10 service dog at Wetumpka Elementary School on January 30,
11 2024; and

12 WHEREAS, Popcorn, the facility service dog, was first
13 placed in the State of Alabama in 2015, where she paved the
14 way for placement of other service dogs throughout the
15 state; and

16 WHEREAS, an adored friend to many throughout the
17 years, she has served as a listening ear, the best buddy, a
18 pillow during library time, and even as a participant in
19 costume parties; and

20 WHEREAS, there are approximately 40-45 active
21 facility service dogs throughout the state that work with
22 counselors and administrators within the school system, and
23 Popcorn was responsible for that; these dogs must pass the
24 same training as other service dogs and go through an
25 accredited program, but the big difference is they are not
26 working with one person with a disability; they serve many;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Service Dogs Alabama is backed by Assistance



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29 Dogs International and because this is a state program, the
30 Alabama Department of Education funds the program within
31 Alabama schools; the dogs work with a professional handler
32 and go home with the handler in the evening after the school
33 day is over; and

34 WHEREAS, Popcorn has brought countless smiles,
35 laughs, and support throughout the years with her service
36 within Elmore County; students from her past and her current
37 students came to celebrate her well-deserved retirement; now
38 therefore,

39 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
40 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we take great pride and
41 appreciation for every adventure and opportunity that
42 Popcorn has provided to Wetumpka Elementary's students,
43 staff, faculty, and parents; it is a privilege to wish a
44 happy retirement to Popcorn and share our gratitude for her
45 service by offering this resolution.