

HR111 INTRODUCED



1 HR111
2 AJFIQS7-1
3 By Representative Holk-Jones
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 07-Mar-24



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4 HR_____ CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MONSIGNOR THEODORE
5 H. HAY.
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7 WHEREAS, with special pleasure, we offer joyful
8 felicitations to Monsignor Theodore H. Hay, who is
9 celebrating his milestone 100th birthday; and

10 WHEREAS, Monsignor Hay was born March 12, 1924, in
11 Miami, Florida; after graduating from Gesu High School, a
12 Catholic school run by Jesuits, he felt the call to be a
13 priest; his journey to priesthood began by attending St.
14 Charles College in Grand Coteau, Louisiana, followed by
15 Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama; subsequently, he was
16 accepted into seminary at St. Mary's University in
17 Baltimore, Maryland; and

18 WHEREAS, Monsignor Theodore H. Hay was ordained a
19 Catholic Priest in 1955 by the late Archbishop Thomas J.
20 Toolen in Mobile, Alabama; and

21 WHEREAS, Monsignor Hay has given not only of his time
22 and energies, but also of his compassion, intelligence, and
23 leadership to the people under his care throughout his life;
24 consequently, he should be recognized for his lifetime of
25 service; and

26 WHEREAS, throughout his 69 years as a Priest and a
27 Teacher in the Archdiocese of Mobile, he has fulfilled a
28 number of assignments and location changes; he was first



HR111 INTRODUCED

29 assigned to St. Paul's Church in Birmingham as Assistant
30 Pastor, then he became the Assistant Pastor at St.
31 Margaret's Church in Bayou la Batre, where he also assumed
32 the responsibilities of teaching religion, history, and
33 algebra in St. Margaret's High School; and

34 WHEREAS, following his time at St. Margaret's Church,
35 Monsignor Hay was appointed as Chaplain for the Catholic
36 patients of Searcy Hospital, a state psychiatric facility;
37 shortly thereafter, he was appointed by Federal Judge Thomas
38 as a Member of the Human Rights Committee where he served
39 until the Committee's dissolution; he attained his
40 certification as a Mental Health Chaplain while serving at
41 Searcy Hospital by completing an internship at St.
42 Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C.; and

43 WHEREAS, Monsignor Hays became certified by the
44 United States Catholic Conference's Board of Chaplains which
45 oversees all priests serving as chaplains in the VA and the
46 military; after three years, he was named Chief of Chaplains
47 and served for seven years with dignity and good grace in
48 that capacity; and

49 WHEREAS, the Mobile Archdiocese moved for Monsignor
50 Hays to return to Alabama to fulfill the position of Mental
51 Health Catholic Chaplain at Searcy Psychiatric Hospital;
52 upon his return, he resumed his position as Pastor of St.
53 Cecilia Church where he served until his retirement in 1992,
54 when he was named Pastor Emeritus; and

55 WHEREAS, although retired from parish life, Monsignor
56 Hay retained the position of Catholic Chaplain at Searcy



HR111 INTRODUCED

57 Hospital at the Poundstone Admissions Unit in Daphne; in
58 October 2002, though still in retirement status, he was
59 appointed Administrator of St. Margaret of Scotland Parish
60 in Foley, and he remained in that capacity until November
61 2003; and

62 WHEREAS, rare indeed is the impressive dedication
63 shown by an individual for the benefit of others which
64 Monsignor Theodore H. Hay has displayed throughout his life;
65 he should be celebrated and recognized on the occasion of
66 his centennial birthday;

67 WHEREAS, a 100th birthday is a significant milestone
68 that represents a century worth of wisdom earned and
69 memories gained and is a cause of great rejoicing; now
70 therefore,

71 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
72 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Monsignor Theodore H. Hay is
73 highly honored and celebrated for reaching his milestone
74 100th birthday and we are pleased to offer him this
75 resolution as evidence of our high regard for his many good
76 works and with sincere wishes for many more happy and
77 healthy birthdays to come.