

SJR15 INTRODUCED



1 SJR15
2 2JUR8KS-1
3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,
4 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,
6 Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Roberts,
7 Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Weaver, Williams, Woods
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 20-Jan-26



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4 SJR____ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MARY
5 ANN PEAK PHELPS.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
8 death on August 15, 2025, of Mary Ann Peak Phelps of
9 Tuscaloosa, Alabama, at the age of 93; her passing leaves a
10 void in the lives of her loving family, many friends, and
11 the Tuscaloosa community where she was highly regarded; and

12 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Phelps was a steadfast leader of
13 Tuscaloosa's civic life for generations; she is remembered
14 as a difference-maker who saw the positive possibilities of
15 investing her time, talent, and treasure into Tuscaloosa,
16 and her legacy will live on for many years to come; and

17 WHEREAS, a Eufaula native, Mary Ann Phelps graduated
18 from high school in 1949; she earned her Bachelor of Science
19 from Auburn University, where she pledged Chi Omega; as a
20 Chi Omega alumna, she spent nearly 18 years as a Nu Beta
21 chapter adviser at The University of Alabama; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1956, Mary Ann Phelps moved to Tuscaloosa
23 to teach math and science in Tuscaloosa City and Walker
24 County Schools; her husband, Sam, attended law school and
25 practiced law for 45 years; together, they built a loving
26 home and tirelessly dedicated themselves to serving the
27 community that they both grew to love; and

28 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Phelps' dedication and devotion to

SJR15 INTRODUCED



29 matters of civic importance to Tuscaloosa left a lasting
30 mark on the community; the breadth and scope of her
31 interests and efforts were remarkable; her legacy includes
32 her tangible impact on the YMCA; Junior League; Chamber of
33 Commerce of West Alabama; Girl Scouts; Boy Scouts; the
34 League of Women Voters; Tuscaloosa Riverwalk Committee; West
35 Alabama Rehabilitation Center; Hospice of West Alabama,
36 where she was a founding member; and numerous other
37 organizations; and

38 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Phelps was most proud of her 27
39 years on the Tuscaloosa County Parks and Recreation
40 Authority (TCPARA) board and its Foundation, including
41 serving as chair; her work at TCPARA resulted in the Mary
42 Ann Phelps Activity Center being named for her in 2002; and

43 WHEREAS, she had a heart for health organizations and
44 served on many health-related committees, boards, and
45 foundations; as a DCH Foundation board member, she
46 co-chaired the capital campaign to fund the construction of
47 the \$39 million Manderson Cancer Treatment Center which
48 opened at DCH in 2009; and

49 WHEREAS, her endeavors in seeking the best for the
50 community resulted in bringing people together to set and
51 achieve visions for a better Tuscaloosa, and she was
52 recognized by numerous grateful organizations; among her
53 many accolades, she was honored as Tuscaloosa Civitan Club's
54 Citizen of the Year, United Way Volunteer of the Year, with
55 the Tuscaloosa Firefighters Good Samaritan Award, and in
56 2011, she received the Pillar of the Community Award; and

SJR15 INTRODUCED



57 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Phelps found joy spending time with
58 her grandchildren and being involved in their lives; she was
59 immensely proud of each of them; she loved playing bridge
60 with her close friends; she was known for her love of all
61 animals, especially dogs, and she was an accomplished cook
62 who enjoyed hosting and cooking for family and friends; one
63 of her favorite things was knitting or doing needlepoint as
64 she sat by a cozy fire with her dogs; and

65 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Phelps is preceded in death by her
66 husband of 58 years, Sam Moore Phelps; and her parents, Mary
67 and Floyd Peak; and

68 WHEREAS, she is survived by her son, Scott Phelps
69 (Carroll); grandchildren, Sam Taylor Phelps (Lauren), Ann
70 Phelps Hill (Rudy), and Paul Chandler Phelps;
71 great-grandchildren, Martha McRae Hill, Sam Moore Phelps
72 III, Lucile Mae Hill, Wilkerson Scott Phelps, and Emmie
73 Elizabeth Hill; brother, Al Peak; sister, Martha Grant; and
74 many other loving extended family members and friends; and

75 WHEREAS, Mary Ann Phelps gave freely of her time and
76 efforts and changed the very fabric of the community over
77 her long and distinguished career as a volunteer leader in
78 Tuscaloosa County, and her presence will be greatly missed;
79 her memory will surely be cherished in the hearts of all who
80 were blessed to know her; now therefore,

81 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
82 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mary Ann Peak
83 Phelps is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is
84 offered in tribute to her life and service to others, along



SJR15 INTRODUCED

85 with heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared
86 by many.