

## 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, Shelnut, 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



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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



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

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

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

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

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



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