

1 SJR158
2 121535-1
3 By Senator Little (T)
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 13-APR-10

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF DOCTOR HARVEY CURTIS PITTS,
9 JR.

10
11 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and an
12 inconsolable sense of loss that news is received of the death
13 of a most distinguished Alabamian and American hero,
14 Lieutenant Colonel Harvey Curtis Pitts, Jr., Ed.D., on March
15 31, 2010, at the age of 75 years; and

16 WHEREAS, born January 18, 1935, he was the son of
17 Lieutenant Colonel Harvey Curtis Pitts, Sr., and Sara Booth
18 Pitts; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Pitts was a highly decorated veteran
20 who embarked upon a second career as an educator after
21 retirement from the military; he served his country for 20
22 years in the United States Air Force, where he graduated first
23 in his class in five of the nine schools he attended; he was a
24 decorated fighter pilot who received a Silver Star for combat
25 duty in Vietnam, a Bronze Star, and the Barry Goldwater "Top
26 Gun" Award, among many additional recognitions; in addition,

1 he served with the Joint Chiefs of Staff as an Action Officer;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, in 1975, Dr. Pitts founded and was vice
4 chancellor of the Phenix City Campus of Troy University and
5 under his leadership, the campus grew to almost 2,000 students
6 and became one of Troy University's four thriving campuses;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, his academic credentials include a
9 Doctorate in Administration and Supervision from Auburn
10 University, a Master's in Business Administration Degree from
11 Georgia State University, and a Bachelor of Science Degree
12 from Troy University; and

13 WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death a son, Curt
14 Pitts, and his mother, Charlotte Skelton; three daughters,
15 Melissa (Dan) Komitor, Sara Nicholson, and Christy (Russ Gay)
16 Jowers, and their mother, Janice Henderson; one granddaughter,
17 Katie Nicholson; three grandsons, Johnny Nicholson, Alex
18 Komitor, and Sam Komitor; one sister, Belle P. (Gentry) Lee;
19 and two brothers, Charles (Cynthia) Pitts, and Joe Pitts and
20 wife, Kathryn Ness; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Pitts served his country with honor and
22 distinction in time of war and became a highly esteemed
23 educator after returning to civilian life; his presence will
24 be greatly missed by those who were privileged to know him,
25 but he leaves a legacy of dedicated service that will endure
26 for future generations; now therefore,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
2 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Dr. Harvey Curtis
3 Pitts, Jr., is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution
4 is offered in tribute to his life, along with heartfelt
5 sympathy to his grieving family.