

1 SJR67
2 118446-2
3 By Senators Brooks, Glover, Barron, Beason, Bedford,
4 Benefield, Bishop, Butler, Coleman, Denton, Dixon, Dunn,
5 Erwin, Figures, French, Holley, Keahey, Little (T), Little
6 (Z), Marsh, Means, Mitchell, Mitchem, Orr, Penn, Pittman,
7 Poole, Preuitt, Ross, Sanders, Sanford, Singleton, Smith,
8 Smitherman, and Waggoner
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 17-FEB-10

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF FORMER STATE SENATOR BILL
9 MENTON.

10
11 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that news is
12 received of the death of our friend and former colleague, the
13 Honorable Bill Menton, of Irvington, Alabama, at the age of 90
14 years; and

15 WHEREAS, a dedicated public servant who was
16 motivated by the desire to help people, Mr. Menton was elected
17 to the Alabama Senate in 1982 representing Mobile County's
18 District 35 and later served as a Mobile County Commissioner
19 from 1988 to 1992; he was a faithful member of St. Margaret
20 Catholic Church in Bayou La Batre; and

21 WHEREAS, an alumnus of Spring Hill College, he was
22 an outstanding athlete with scholarships in football,
23 basketball, and baseball, and he is a member of two Halls of
24 Fame, the Spring Hill College Badger Hall of Fame and the
25 Mobile Sports Hall of Fame; after graduation in 1942, he
26 coached at the college in the 1940s and at UMS High School for
27 several years, prior to embarking on a career in law

1 enforcement with an emphasis on making a difference in the
2 lives of troubled youth; while working as a Mobile County
3 juvenile probation officer, he helped establish a juvenile
4 division for the Mobile County Sheriff's Office; in addition,
5 he also served with distinction as police chief for Bayou La
6 Batre and in 1975 and 1976 served as a crime prevention
7 officer for Mobile County Public Schools; in 1996, Mr. Menton
8 became executive director of the Alabama Fraternal Order of
9 Police; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Menton and his wife were among the
11 founders of Mobile Area Retarded Citizens in the late 1950s
12 and also helped establish Little League Baseball in Mobile
13 around the same time; he also served in various other
14 positions throughout his long career including a time as
15 general manager of the Mobile Tarpons minor league football
16 team and assistant general manager of the Mobile A's minor
17 league baseball team; and

18 WHEREAS, a devout Roman Catholic, Mr. Menton was
19 bestowed the honor of Knight of Saint Gregory by Pope John
20 Paul II at the nomination of Archbishop Oscar H. Lipscomb; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Menton established a popular radio
22 sports program and was the voice of the Mobile Bears
23 throughout the 1940s and 1950s, covering high school football
24 games and hosting a popular scoreboard show on radio during
25 football games on Saturday evenings; and

26 WHEREAS, he was an accomplished master of ceremonies
27 and was a most sought-after banquet personality in Mobile for

1 decades; above all, he never learned the meaning of the word
2 "no" when asked to help with someone's child, a charity, or
3 any worthy cause; and

4 WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death his beloved
5 wife of 65 years, Carmen Santana Menton; eight children; six
6 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Menton earned widespread respect for
8 his commitment and exceptional abilities as he worked
9 tirelessly for his fellow citizens; through the years, he made
10 a positive impact on the lives of countless young people, and
11 while his presence will be missed, his legacy will endure for
12 future generations; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of the Honorable
15 Bill Menton is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution
16 is offered in highest tribute to his life of achievement and
17 service, along with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.