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3 By Representative Jackson  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 01-MAR-11

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. EUGENE GARNER, JR.

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10 WHEREAS, with profound sorrow and regret, we receive  
11 news of the death of Mr. Eugene "Honey Bunch" Garner, Jr., of  
12 Sunflower, Alabama, on February 8, 2011, at the age of 78  
13 years; and

14 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Garner leaves a void in  
15 the lives of his loving family, his many friends, and the  
16 entire community, where he was well-known and highly regarded  
17 as a civic leader and businessman; and

18 WHEREAS, a graduate of Preswick High School in  
19 Washington County, he served with honor and distinction as a  
20 medic in the United States Army, stationed in Tokyo, Japan,  
21 from 1953-1957; upon returning home, he attended Spaulding  
22 Business College in Mobile; he retired after a 35-year career  
23 with Olin Chemical and was also the owner and operator of  
24 Garner Wrecker Service of Sunflower for 35 years; and

25 WHEREAS, among his roles of community leadership,  
26 Mr. Garner was the first charter member of the NAACP chapter  
27 in Washington County and served as president for approximately

1 20 years; he was a member of Mt. Shady A.M.E. Zion Church of  
2 Sunflower; and

3 WHEREAS, he is survived by his devoted wife of 58  
4 years, Mary Ludgood Garner; daughters, Norma (Marion) Seals  
5 and Cecelia (Manuel) Goodwin; son, Roberria (JoAnn) Garner;  
6 mother, Ruth B. Massey; nine grandchildren; three  
7 great-grandchildren; six sisters, Ruth Vaughn, Rubye  
8 Gilchrist, Jestine (Lemuel) Dickinson, Annie Bumpers, Betty  
9 (Phillip) Leslie, and Bernice (Alphonse) Davis; two brothers,  
10 John (Carolyn) Massey and George (Clotile) Massey; and

11 WHEREAS, preceding him in death were his adopted  
12 parents, Naomi and Eugene Garner; daughter, Hilda Garner Cox;  
13 son, Eugene Garner, III; and stepfather, Benjamin Massey; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Garner was a valued member of the  
15 community; although his presence will be missed, his memory  
16 will be cherished in the hearts and minds of those who were  
17 fortunate to know him; now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Eugene  
20 Garner, Jr., is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
21 resolution is offered in highest tribute to his life, along  
22 with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.