

1 HR437  
2 130380-1  
3 By Representatives Merrill, Poole, England and Harper  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 27-APR-11

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. JOHN PAUL SINGLETON.

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10 WHEREAS, with an overwhelming sense of loss, we  
11 receive news of the death of Mr. John Paul Singleton of Holt,  
12 Alabama, on April 15, 2011, at the age of 101 years; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Singleton was a prominent businessman  
14 and civic leader whose community service included guiding the  
15 Tuscaloosa area through difficult times; he was president of  
16 the Tuscaloosa Board of Education when schools were integrated  
17 and was a calming voice of reason in the turbulent era; and

18 WHEREAS, born in Washington County, Alabama, on  
19 September 13, 1909, he arrived in Tuscaloosa in 1929 to look  
20 for work during the Great Depression and found a job as a  
21 clerk at the old Central Foundry, then one of the city's  
22 largest industries; through the years, he rose steadily  
23 through the ranks and retired as president of the company in  
24 the early 1980s; and

25 WHEREAS, among his well-deserved awards and honors,  
26 he was named Tuscaloosa Citizen of the Year in 1957, Pillar of  
27 West Alabama in 2005, and was inducted into the Tuscaloosa

1 County Civic Hall of Fame in 2008; his community leadership  
2 included heading the United Fund (now United Way) and serving  
3 as president of the Rotary Club and the Boy Scouts Black  
4 Warrior Council; he also served faithfully on the deacon board  
5 of Holt Baptist Church; and

6 WHEREAS, preceding him in death were his beloved  
7 wife of almost 70 years, Nell Murphy Singleton, and son, Paul  
8 Singleton, Jr.; and

9 WHEREAS, he is survived by his sons, Jim Singleton  
10 and David Singleton; eight grandchildren; 13  
11 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Singleton was a selfless and humble man  
13 who loved his family, friends, church, employees, and  
14 community; he will also be remembered for the indomitable  
15 spirit that kept him active even in his 90s, greeting visitors  
16 with enthusiasm, driving his own car, fishing for crappie, and  
17 even walking on a glacier in Alaska; and

18 WHEREAS, above all, Mr. Singleton was motivated by  
19 an unwavering commitment to be of service to others; he  
20 believed in judging people by their character and nothing  
21 else, and he lived his belief every day; few individuals have  
22 equaled the impact of his contributions to the community, and  
23 his legacy will endure for future generations; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
25 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. John Paul  
26 Singleton is recorded with deep sorrow, and this resolution is

1        offered in highest tribute to his life, along with heartfelt  
2        sympathy to his grieving family.