

1 HJR80
2 136671-1
3 By Representative Sanderford
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 14-FEB-12

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM BASIL WATSON, JR.

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10 WHEREAS, with profound sorrow and regret, we receive
11 news of the death of Mr. William Basil Watson, Jr., of
12 Huntsville, Alabama, on February 5, 2012, at the age of 65
13 years; and

14 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Watson leaves a void in
15 the lives of his loving family, his many friends, and the
16 entire community, where he was highly regarded; and

17 WHEREAS, born on December 1, 1946, in Atmore,
18 Alabama, he was the son of William Basil Watson, Sr., and
19 Twynette Wells Watson Yeager; he earned his Bachelor of
20 Science Degree in Business Administration from Samford
21 University and Advanced Certification from Louisiana State
22 University Graduate School of Banking; and

23 WHEREAS, he retired from Wachovia Bank in 2006 as
24 the Regional President of North Alabama and Tennessee; his
25 community leadership including serving on the Board of
26 Directors of the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of
27 Commerce, the Association of the United States Army (Redstone

1 Chapter), and the University of Alabama-Huntsville Business
2 School Advisory Board; in addition, he served on the Army
3 Community Relations Committee Huntsville/Redstone; he was also
4 Chair of Volunteers of America, North Alabama, and served on
5 the Board of Directors of Servis-First Bank; he was a member
6 of First Baptist Church of Huntsville; and

7 WHEREAS, holding the title of Army Reserve
8 Ambassador, he was a retired Major General, having served with
9 honor and distinction in the United States Army for more than
10 38 years, including active duty, the Alabama National Guard,
11 and 27 years as the Commanding General of the 87th Division;
12 he was a graduate of the United States Army War College and
13 served as Commanding General of United States Army Reserve
14 Readiness Command; he was a highly decorated combat veteran of
15 the Vietnam War, earning the Army Distinguished Service Medal,
16 Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star (with Oak
17 Leaf Cluster), Purple Heart (with Oak Leaf Cluster), and the
18 Combat Infantryman Badge; and

19 WHEREAS, survivors include his wife, Mary Elizabeth
20 "Meb" Boyett Watson; children, William Kevin (Holly) Watson
21 and Stephanie W. Boykin; four grandchildren; brother, Byron
22 (Jean) Watson; sister, Karen (John) Thomas; and stepmother,
23 Virginia Watson; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Watson set an enduring example for the
25 strength of his marriage and the love of his family, as well
26 as the distinction of his rewarding career; his memory will be

1 cherished in the hearts and minds of those who were fortunate
2 to know him; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. William Basil
5 Watson, Jr., is recorded with deep sadness, and this
6 resolution is offered in highest tribute to his life, along
7 with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.