

1 HR411
2 153266-1
3 By Representative Merrill
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 02-MAY-13

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. WALTER FRANK NICHOLS.

9
10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we mourn
11 the death of Mr. Walter Frank "Bill" Nichols of Phenix City,
12 Alabama, on April 8, 2013, at the age of 92 years; and

13 WHEREAS, his passing leaves a void in the lives of
14 his loving family and his many friends; and

15 WHEREAS, born on May 8, 1920, he was the son of
16 Walter Frank Nichols, Sr., and Fannie Robinson; he was an
17 everyday sort of Renaissance man, a true reflection of the
18 time and place of his birth; and

19 WHEREAS, during his official working career, which
20 began in 1954, he held many positions with the Phenix City
21 Department of Parks and Recreation, including serving as
22 Superintendent of Parks and Recreation for many years; he was
23 a past president of the Alabama Parks and Recreation Society
24 as well as the first State Softball Commissioner; and

25 WHEREAS, blessed with many talents, he went to work
26 with The Coca-Cola Company in Columbus, Georgia, as an
27 illustrator and letterer just after his high school

1 graduation; he was also an accomplished musician and during
2 the 1940s led his own band in playing the music of that era at
3 many venues throughout the area; for a brief period, the band
4 also had a radio show on a local station; and

5 WHEREAS, after his marriage, he became very involved
6 in the Christian community and served as the music director
7 for several churches, most notably with the Porter Memorial
8 Baptist Church in Bibb City; he was an accomplished soloist
9 and also loved singing in quartets; and

10 WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, he was
11 predeceased by three sisters, Fannie Mae Mann, Thelma Andrews,
12 and Margaret Whatley; and

13 WHEREAS, survivors include his devoted wife, Sara
14 Harrison Nichols; daughter, Beth (Rod) Glen; sons, Chris
15 (Rosemary) Nichols and Gary (Sherry) Nichols; nine
16 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, and many other family
17 members and caring friends; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Nichols was a valued member of the
19 community who touched many lives; although his presence will
20 be greatly missed, his memory will be cherished in the hearts
21 of those who were fortunate to know him; now therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
23 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. Walter Frank
24 Nichols is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is
25 offered with heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is
26 shared by many.