

1 HR138  
2 157801-1  
3 By Representative Merrill  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 06-FEB-14

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7  
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MRS. JOYCE SASSAMAN OCHOA.

9  
10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we mourn  
11 the death of Mrs. Joyce Sassaman Ochoa of Tuscaloosa, Alabama,  
12 on January 16, 2014, at the age of 86 years; and

13 WHEREAS, born on April 19, 1927, in Birmingham,  
14 Alabama, to Albert and Lucy Sassaman, she grew up in the  
15 College Hills area and graduated from Birmingham-Southern  
16 College with a Degree in Sociology; and

17 WHEREAS, after moving to St. Louis to work as a  
18 social worker, she married and relocated to Tuscaloosa, where  
19 she was actively involved in many artistic endeavors including  
20 gardening, flower arranging, and abstract painting; and

21 WHEREAS, she was a longtime member of Ikebana,  
22 Tuscaloosa and Feronia Garden Clubs, and attained the  
23 credentials Master Flower Show Judge and Landscape Design  
24 Consultant; she was also a world traveler who enjoyed  
25 experiencing other lands and cultures, and she was an  
26 inquisitive conversationalist who listened with interest to  
27 others and made each person seem important; and

1           WHEREAS, for more than five decades, she was a  
2 devout member of Canterbury Episcopal Chapel, where she was  
3 active in the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, and many committees;  
4 she was a member of the Daughters of the King and completed  
5 the intensive four-year Episcopalians for Ministry course; and

6           WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, she was  
7 predeceased by her husband of almost 40 years, Gonzalo Ochoa;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, survivors include her daughters, Ramona  
10 Elizabeth Ochoa-Horshok (Michael), Amanda Lucia Ochoa, and  
11 Patricia Ann Ochoa (Josh); brothers, Billy J. Sassaman and Dan  
12 Sassaman (Joanna); and grandchildren, Amelia Horshok, Carmen  
13 Williams, Joy Beth Williams, and Jackson Ochoa; and

14           WHEREAS, Mrs. Ochoa was a wonderful and unique  
15 mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and dear friend who will be  
16 deeply missed by her family and all those who were fortunate  
17 to know her; now therefore,

18           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
19 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mrs. Joyce  
20 Sassaman Ochoa is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
21 resolution is offered in highest tribute to her life and with  
22 heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared by  
23 many.