

1 SJR92
2 155137-2
3 By Senators Irons and Bedford
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 18-MAR-14

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8 DESIGNATING THE LIEUTENANT COLONEL R. EDWARD "ED"
9 YEILDING PARKWAY.

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11 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel R. Edward "Ed" Yeilding
12 United States Air Force (retired) is a resident of Florence,
13 Alabama; and

14 WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Coffee High School and
15 Auburn University where he was an ROTC student majoring in
16 electrical engineering and on graduation entered the U.S. Air
17 Force as a second lieutenant; and

18 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Ed Yeilding, on March 6,
19 1990, piloted his way into history, making the fastest
20 cross-continental flight ever in the famed SR-71 Blackbird
21 when he completed the flight in 67 minutes, 54 seconds; and

22 WHEREAS, the reconnaissance information provided by
23 the SR-71 and just the fact that the United States owned such
24 an aircraft were invaluable tools throughout the Cold War; and

25 WHEREAS, the Blackbird was so important that
26 Congressional officials decided when retirement came, the

1 airplane would do so in style and they turned to Yeilding to
2 occupy the pilot seat for the mission; and

3 WHEREAS, at the end of the trip, he was greeted by
4 his parents, William E. and Carolyn Yeilding and his sister
5 and brother on the tarmac; and

6 WHEREAS, he has flown more than 90 worldwide
7 operational reconnaissance missions, has more than 3,500
8 flying hours, and his military decorations include the
9 Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with Three Oak Leaf
10 Clusters, Commendation Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, and
11 the Combat Readiness Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters; now
12 therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of Ed
15 Yeilding's distinguished career in the U.S. Air Force, we
16 hereby designate the portion of Cox Creek Parkway and Alabama
17 Highway 133 in the Florence area from near the north end of
18 Wilson Dam northward on Cox Creek Parkway to the intersection
19 of Cox Creek Parkway and Huntsville Road at milepost 9.797 as
20 the "Lieutenant Colonel R. Edward "Ed" Yeilding Parkway."

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That in keeping with
22 provisions of Sections 23-1-8 and 23-1-8.1 of the Code of
23 Alabama 1975, the Alabama Department of Transportation is
24 hereby requested to erect appropriate signage, to be paid for
25 fully with private funds provided by the Yeilding Family or
26 their friends as specified in Section 23-1-8.1. Such signage
27 should be erected along the described route. Such signage

1 should incorporate the Great Seal of the State of Alabama. If
2 possible, such signage should also incorporate the official
3 emblem of the United States Air Force provided all rights to
4 incorporate such aforementioned military emblem are granted by
5 the United States Air Force, or other such grantee of the
6 United States Department of Defense.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, if possible, the
8 signage should be designed and laid out in emblems and words
9 as follows:

10 Great Seal of the State of Alabama

11 "Lieutenant Colonel R. Edward "Ed" Yeilding Parkway"

12 U.S. Air Force Emblem

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That such memorial
14 designation shall in no way alter or conflict with the common
15 designation "Cox Creek Parkway and Alabama Highway 133," and
16 shall not affect in any way postal or address designations
17 along the designated memorial route.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
19 resolution be presented to Lieutenant Colonel R. Edward "Ed"
20 Yeilding so that he may know of the esteem in which we hold
21 him and the service he made to his country and his state.