

1 HR235
2 169223-1
3 By Representatives Patterson, Ball, McCutcheon, Williams (P),
4 Whorton (R), Hall, Daniels and Sanderford
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 14-MAY-15

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7
8 RECOGNIZING HUNTSVILLE UTILITIES ON THE OCCASION OF
9 ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

10
11 WHEREAS, the City of Huntsville is a municipal
12 entity in Alabama within Madison County that operates a
13 city-owned not for profit public utility doing business as
14 Huntsville Utilities to provide electricity to all Madison
15 County residents and water and natural gas to Huntsville
16 customers; and

17 WHEREAS, Huntsville Utilities was formerly organized
18 in its present form as a result of the May 7, 1940,
19 acquisition of the electric assets in Madison County belonging
20 to Alabama Power, which were sold to The Tennessee Valley
21 Authority (TVA) as a result of the 1933 New Deal of President
22 Roosevelt to provide for the economic development of areas
23 along the Tennessee River; Huntsville Utilities became a local
24 power company to purchase electricity from TVA; and

25 WHEREAS, Huntsville Utilities has the distinction of
26 operating Alabama's first public water system founded by
27 Hunter Peel after John Hunt settled near Big Spring Park and

1 is the oldest water system west of the Appalachians; water
2 system expansion in Huntsville was the result of Dr. Fearn's
3 progressive future planning; and

4 WHEREAS, the Huntsville City Council invested in the
5 original natural gas works plant owned by Dr. F.H. Newman and
6 later purchased the full operating rights from the Alabama Gas
7 Corporation to distribute natural gas to Huntsville citizens;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the City of Huntsville Council, as the
10 elected officials of Huntsville, has oversight of Huntsville
11 Utilities, the governance is handled by three separate boards
12 of directors, the Huntsville Electric Utility Board, the
13 Huntsville Water Works Board, and the Huntsville Natural Gas
14 Board; the Water Works and Natural Gas Boards share members;
15 currently, Huntsville Utilities is governed by Electric Board
16 Members: Mr. Ronald W. Boles, Mr. D. Thomas Winstead, and Mr.
17 George A. Moore; Water Works and Natural Gas Board Members:
18 Dr. James S. Wall, Jr., Dr. Dorothy W. Huston, and Mr. Stanley
19 Statum; and

20 WHEREAS, Huntsville Utilities has been operating in
21 its current form since 1940, there have been just four
22 leaders, Mr. Karl A. Woltersdorf (1940-1965), Mr. Edward E.
23 Cobb (1965-1987), Mr. William C. Pippin (1987-2014), and Mr.
24 Jay C. Stowe (2014-Present) to lead the company of
25 approximately 625 employees that service 176,000 electric
26 customers, 90,000 water customers, and 50,000 natural gas
27 customers; Huntsville Utilities President and CEO Jay Stowe is

1 supported by the administrative leadership of Mr. Tony Owens,
2 Vice President of Operations; Mr. John Olshefski, Vice
3 President of Customer Care; Mr. Ted Phillips, Chief Financial
4 Officer; and Mrs. Janice Capshaw, Director of Human Resources;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Huntsville Utilities celebrates its 75th
7 Anniversary of providing low-cost and reliable utility
8 services to customers with a mission of adding value to the
9 community; Huntsville Utilities vision, "To be the best
10 utility in the country," is evidenced by the constant
11 infrastructure and system upgrades and improvements made as
12 they execute their value statement of, "doing what is best for
13 customers, employees and operations"; and

14 WHEREAS, Huntsville Utilities has a proud group of
15 retirees and a dedicated team of current employees, the
16 planning of the 75th Anniversary activities were given to the
17 Public Relations/Communications Department with Mr. Gary T.
18 Whitley, Jr., leading the committee with support from Mr. Joe
19 Gherdes, Ms. Deborah Hudson, Dr. Harry Hobbs, Mrs. Niki
20 Butler, and Mrs. Amanda Kemp; now therefore,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
22 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we commemorate the 75th
23 Anniversary of Huntsville Utilities in Huntsville, Alabama.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we recognize May 7,
25 2015, as Huntsville Utilities Day in the State of Alabama.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
27 resolution shall be provided to Huntsville Utilities, the City

1 of Huntsville Council and Mayor and that another copy shall be
2 placed in the official archives of the Alabama Legislature as
3 well as the official archives for the State of Alabama.